

THE ILLUSTRATED
SPORTING & DRAMATIC
NEWS

No. 168.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1877.

[REGISTERED FOR
TRANSMISSION ABROAD.]

PRICE SIXPENCE.
By Post 6d.



MISS MYRA HOLME.

RAILWAYS.

SOUTH - WESTERN RAILWAY.

SANDOWN PARK CLUB SECOND SPRING MEETING, ESHER. SATURDAY, APRIL 28.

FREQUENT TRAINS from Waterloo, Vauxhall, Hammersmith, Kensington, West Brompton, Chelsea, Battersea, and Clapham Junction Stations, to ESHER, returning from Escher after the races. Cheap trains will run from Waterloo Bridge Station commencing at 8.0 a.m. until 10.55 a.m. inclusive.

Special trains at special fares from 11.0 a.m. till 1.20 p.m. Trains leave Kensington for Clapham Junction (calling at Chelsea five minutes later) at 8.20, 8.48, 9.12, 9.33, 10.15, 10.55, 11.17, 11.48, a.m., 12.15 and 12.46 p.m., in connection with trains to Escher. Tickets may be procured at the West End Office, 30, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus; and the City Office, Exeter Buildings, Arthur-street West, E.C.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.

NEWMARKET RACES.

FIRST SPRING MEETING, 1st to 4th MAY, 1877.

2000 GUINEAS STAKES, WEDNESDAY, 2nd MAY.
1000 GUINEAS STAKES, FRIDAY, 4th MAY.

First, Second, and Third Class Trains will run as under:—

St. Pancras. dep.	Liverpool Street. dep.	Newmarket. due
7.33 a.m.	6.0 a.m.	9.56 a.m.
9.15 a.m.	7.35 a.m.	10.45 a.m.
10.15 a.m.	8.10 a.m. (Express)	11.22 a.m.
12.3 noon	10.25 a.m.	2.8 p.m.
2.35 p.m.	11.35 a.m. (Express)	4.57 p.m.
5.15 p.m.	2.10 p.m. (Express)	7.40 p.m.
	4.10 p.m.	
	5.10 p.m. (Express)	

Returning from Newmarket to Liverpool Street and St. Pancras at 8.9 and 8.50 a.m., 12.25, 4.22, and 6.15 p.m.

A FIRST-CLASS SPECIAL TRAIN will leave St. Pancras and Liverpool Street on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th May, at 9.30 a.m.; and return from Newmarket each day one hour after the advertised time of the last race.

A SPECIAL EXPRESS TRAIN (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class) for Newmarket, will leave St. Pancras and Liverpool Street on Monday, April 30th, at 5.15 p.m.

A First, Second, and Third Class SPECIAL TRAIN will leave St. Pancras and Liverpool Street on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 1st, 2nd and 4th May, at 8.45 a.m. for Newmarket, returning from Newmarket at 5.45 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, and at 4.30 p.m. on Friday.

S. SWARBRICK, General Manager.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

NEWMARKET RACES.—FIRST SPRING MEETING.

Special Fast Trains, conveying 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class Passengers at Ordinary Fares, will run between CAMBRIDGE and LONDON, on TUESDAY, May 1, WEDNESDAY, May 2 (Two Thousand Day), and FRIDAY, May 4 (One Thousand Day) conveying 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class passengers at ordinary fares, as under:—

LONDON TO CAMBRIDGE. CAMBRIDGE TO LONDON.
TUESDAY, 1st, WEDNESDAY, WEDNESDAY, May 2,
2nd, and FRIDAY, May 4. FRIDAY, May 4.

	a.m.		p.m.	p.m.
King's Cross	9.0	Cambridge	6.40	5.0
Finsbury Park	9.8	Finsbury Park	7.55	6.15
Cambridge	10.35	King's Cross	8.5	6.20

In connection with a Great Eastern train from Cambridge at 10.50 a.m. for Newmarket.

In connection with 5.55 p.m. ordinary train, Newmarket to Cambridge, on Wednesday, 2nd, and with the 4.22 p.m. ordinary train, Newmarket to Cambridge, on Friday, 4th May.

Ordinary trains leave Cambridge at 4.30 and 7.40 p.m., reaching King's Cross at 5.55 and 9.15 p.m.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd class passengers will also be booked from Cambridge to London by the return trains.

HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager.

London, King's Cross Station, April, 1877.

SEVENOAKS STEEPLECHASES, MAY 1st.

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

SPECIAL FAST TRAINS to SEVENOAKS at ORDINARY FARES. For times of departure see bills.

MANCHESTER, SHEFFIELD, AND LINCOLNSHIRE RAILWAY.

GREAT INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW AT POMONA GARDENS.

On MONDAY, 7th May, a cheap excursion to MANCHESTER (for one or three days), will run as under:—Rotherham (Central) dep. 7.0 a.m.; Broughton Lane, 7.10 a.m.; Sheffield (Vic. Sta.), 7.30 a.m.; Wadsley Bridge, 7.40 a.m.; Oughty Bridge, 7.47 a.m.; Deepcar, 7.53 a.m.; Wortley, 7.58 a.m.; Barnsley (Court House), 7.30 a.m.; Dodworth, 7.40 a.m.; Silkstone, 7.45 a.m.; Penistone, 8.10 a.m.; Dunford Bridge, 8.25 a.m.

Holders of One-day Tickets return by Special Train from London-road Station, Manchester, at 7.40 p.m. the same day, and Holders of Three-days Tickets can return on Wednesday, 9th May, at 6.30 p.m.

R. G. UNDERDOWN, General Manager.

London-road Station, Manchester, April, 1877.

BOMBAY.—ANCHOR LINE.—Direct

route to India. Fortnightly sailings.—First-class steamers, fitted up expressly for the trade. Qualified surgeons and stewards carried.

From Glasgow. From Liverpool.
TRINACRIA

EUROPA

MACEDONIA

First-class, 50 guineas. Sail punctually as advertised. Apply for berths or handbooks to Henderson Brothers, Union-street, Glasgow, and 17, Water-street, Liverpool; J. W. Jones, Chapel-walk, Manchester; Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.; and Henderson Brothers 19, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

MARAVILLA COCOA FOR BREAKFAST.

"It may justly be called the Perfection of Prepared Cocoa."—British Medical Press.

"Entire solubility, a delicate aroma, and a rare concentration of the purest elements of nutrition, distinguish the MARAVILLA COCOA above all others."—Globe.

Sold in tin-lined packets only by Grocers. TAYLOR BROTHERS, London, Sole Proprietors.

SCHWEPPE'S MALVERN SELTZER.

SCHWEPPE'S SODA WATER.

SCHWEPPE'S LEMONADE.

SCHWEPPE'S POTASS WATER.

Consumers are particularly requested to ask for SCHWEPPE'S, and observe Trade Mark on Labels (a Fountain), as many imitations are offered to the Public.—To be obtained from the leading Chemists, Wine Merchants, and Grocers.

MISS HEATH'S PROVINCIAL TOUR,

Accompanied by Mr. WILSON BARRETT'S COMPANY, will commence at Easter.

The Company will meanwhile travel with "THE SHAUGHRAUN."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS, Six Nights.

All letters to be addressed to Mr. WILSON BARRETT, 22, Lower Seymour-street, Portman-square, London, till further notice.

Stage Manager, Mr. A. CUTHBERT; Acting Manager, Mr. LEE ANDERSON.

GENERAL EXHIBITION OF WATER

COLOUR DRAWINGS, DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will OPEN on MONDAY, the 29th inst.—R. F. M'NAIR, Sec.

After Monday, is open daily from 10 till 6. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

THEATRES.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—MR.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON will appear in the character of RIP VAN WINKLE at 8.0 o'clock THIS EVENING, and until further notice. Commence at 7.0 o'clock with A QUIET FAMILY. Mr. H. Jackson and Miss Fannie Leslie. At 8.0 o'clock the popular drama of RIP VAN WINKLE. To conclude with at 10.30, SYLVESTER DAGGEWOOD. Prices from 1s. to 5s. Doors open at 6.30; commence at 7.0. Box-office open from 10.0 to 5.0 daily.

ROYAL ADELPHI THEATRE.—

Sole Proprietor, B. Webster. Sole Lessee and Manager, F. B. Chatterton. On Monday and during the week at 7.30 PEEP O' DAY, OR SAVOURNEEN DEELISH. Mr. Edmund Falconer, Messrs. S. Emery, H. Sinclair, W. McIntyre, J. G. Shore, F. Moreland, H. Evans, W. S. Parkes, W. H. Day, C. J. Smith, &c., Mesdames E. Stuart, Hudspeth, Lovell, &c. Preceded by the RENDEZVOUS. To conclude with Childrens' Pantomime GOODY TWO SHOES.—Doors open at 6.30. Commence at 6.45. Box Office open from 10 till 5 daily.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—

Lessee and Manager Mr. J. B. Buckstone. EVERY EVENING, at 7.30 FOLLOW THE LEADER, Miss Annie Lafontaine, &c. After which at 8.15, a fairy Comedy by W. S. Gilbert, Esq. entitled THE PALACE OF TRUTH. Mr. Buckstone; Messrs. Howe, Herbert, Braid, Everill, Clark. Mrs. Chippendale, Mesdames Marion Terry, C. Hill, E. Dietz, and Miss Annie Lafontaine. Concluding with BIRDS IN THEIR LITTLE NESTS AGREE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—SEVENTY-

SECOND AND LAST TIME BUT TWELVE OF SHAKSPEARE'S KING RICHARD III.

MR. HENRY IRVING as DUKE OF GLOSTER.

MISS BATEMAN as QUEEN MARGARET.

Every Evening at 7.45, KING RICHARD III. Richard Duke of Gloucester, Mr. Henry Irving; Queen Margaret, Miss Bateman; Lady Anne, Miss Isabel Bateman. Scenery by Hawes Craven; Music by R. Stoepel. Preceded at 7.0 by THE LOTTERY TICKET. A Morning Performance will be given Every Saturday at 2 p.m. On Saturday Morning next, May 5th, KING RICHARD III.

FOLLY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager,

Mr. ALEX. HENDERSON.—The Hit of the Season.

MISS LYDIA THOMPSON AND COMPANY.

Every Evening at 7.30, the domestic drama, by H. T. Craven, Esq., THE CHIMNEY CORNER: Lionel Brough, Miss Emily Duncan. At 8.45, an entirely new and fanciful extravaganza, entitled OXYGEN; OR, GAS IN BURLESQUE METRE, by Messrs. Reece and Farnie; supported by Miss Lydia Thompson, Mesdames Ella Chapman, Marie Williams, Emily Duncan, Rozie Lowe, Harriet Coveney, Merville, Carthew, and Violet Cameron. Messrs. Lionel Brough, Willie Edouin, Day, and Nelson. Fifth Morning Performance Saturday, 5th May. NINE POINTS OF THE LAW, by Tom Taylor—Miss Lydia Thompson and Company—and production of a new comic cantata by Messrs. Edward Solomon and Arthur Mathison, supported by Madam Dolaro, Mr. F. Cook, and a complete company, with full chorus. Doors open at 2; commencing at 2.30. Seats may now be secured.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Scanlan.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and

Manager, Mr. ALEX. HENDERSON.—Immense Success of the PINK DOMINOS.

Charles Wyndham and entire Company in the new Comedy, by James Albery.

Every Evening, at 7.30, the serio-comic drama, in two acts, by John Oxenford, Esq., entitled THE PORTER'S KNOF. Sampson Burr, Mr. John Clarke. At 8.45, THE PINK DOMINOS, a new farcical comedy, in three acts, by James Albery; supported by Charles Wyndham, Standing, Ashley, A. Harris, J. Clarke, Wyatt. Mesdames Fanny Josephs, Eastlake, M. Davis, Bruce, and Clermont.

Acting Manager, Mr. H. J. Hitchins.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.—Lessees

Messrs. D. James and T. Thorne. Enormous Success of OUR BOYS. Every Evening, at 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG; at 8, the most successful comedy, OUR BOYS, written by H. J. Byron, (738th and following nights). Concluding with A FEARFUL FOG; supported by Messrs. William Farren, David James, C. W. Garthorne, J. P. Bernard, W. Lestock, A. Austin and Thomas Thorne. Mesdames Amy Roselle, Kate Bishop, Nellie Walters, Cicely Richards, Sophie Larkin, &c. Acting Manager, Mr. D. McKay.

GLOBE THEATRE.—On Monday, April 30th

for the first time, and Every Evening during the week at 8 o'clock, a new and original play, in 3 acts entitled

PERCY.

Preceded at 7.30 by A SILENT WOMAN. To conclude with VESTA'S TEMPLE, in which Mr. W. J. Hill will sustain his original character of GRUMMIDGE. Prices from 6d. to 5s. Box-office open daily from 11 to 5.—Acting Manager, Mr. Douglas Cox.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Mr. Hare,

Lessee and Manager.—Every Evening, punctually at Eight o'clock, NEW MEN AND OLD ACRES, written by Tom Taylor and A. W. Dubourg. The principal characters will be acted by Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mrs. Stephens, Miss Kate Aubrey; Mr. Kelly, Mr. Anson, Mr. Conway, Mr. Cathcart, Mr. Eraser Jones, and Mr. Hare. The new scenery painted by Messrs. Gordon and Harford.—Doors open at 7.30. Box-office hours 11 to 5.—No fees for booking. Acting-Manager, Mr. John Hux.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Mr. Henry Neville, Sole Lessee.

Great success of the famous nautical drama, THE SCUTTLER SHIP, by Charles Reade, with new scenery and effects by Mr. W. Hann. Every Evening, at 7.15, THE SCUTTLER SHIP. Mr. Henry Neville; Messrs. C. Ashford, Elwood, Artaud, Avondale, Warren, Bauer, Culver, Byatt, Raiemond, Forbes Robertson, and R. Pateman; Mrs. Seymour, Misses Ashley, Agnes Bennett, and Bella Pateman. Doors open at 6.45, commence at 7.15. Box-office hours 11 to 5. No booking fees. Prices from 1s. to 5s. No free list.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.

On Monday, April 30th, and Every Evening at 7.30, THE DOWAGER. Messrs. H. Cox, Grahame, and W. H. Vernon. Mesdames Edith Wilson and Ada Swanborough. At 8.20, BABES AND BEETLES. Mr. John S. Clarke, Mr. Vernon, Miss Venne, &c. Conclude with TRIAL BY JURY. Messrs. Cox, Marius, Penley, Parry and George Leitch. Miss Venne, &c. Box-office open daily. No charge for booking.

ROYAL GRECIAN THEATRE, City-road.—

SOLE PROPRIETOR—MR. GEORGE CONQUEST.

EVERY EVENING at 7, The Great Irish Drama, by Dion Boucault, Esq., entitled THE SHAUGHRAUN, characters by Messrs. W. James, Sennett, Syms, Vincent, Nicholls, Grant, &c.; Misses E. Miller, Victor, Denzil &c. To conclude with (on Monday and Friday) SHRIFT-TEN, THE ONE-EYED PILOT, by Messrs. Geo. Conquest and Henry Pettitt, (on Tuesday and Saturday) with SEVEN SINS, (on Wednesday) with THE CORSIKIAN BROTHERS, (on Thursday) with THE MID-NIGHT WATCH. Dancing on the Platform. The grounds brilliantly illuminated.—Acting Manager, Mr. Alphonse Roques.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON.—Sole

Proprietress, Mrs. S. Lane.—Every Evening, at 6.45, the successful romantic drama by E. Manuel, Esq., entitled JEWESS AND CHRISTIAN; or, THE LOVE THAT KILLS. Messrs. Reynolds, Newbound, J. B. Howe, Rhoyds, Bigwood, Lewis, Hyde; Mdles. Adams, Bellair, Mrs. Newham. Followed by LA SONNAMBULA, Burlesque. Mrs. S. Lane, Mr. Fred Foster, Miss Pollie Randall; Messrs. Bigwood, Lewis, Parry; Miss Summers. BLACK GONDOLA. Messrs. Drayton, Reeve, Jackson, Pitt; Mdles. Brewer, Rayner.

LAST WEEK OF A NIGHT SURPRISE.

MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S

ENTERTAINMENT, TWO FOSTER BROTHERS, by Gilbert A'Beckett, music by A. Cellier. After which, a musical sketch by Mr. Corney Grain, entitled FIVE O'CLOCK TEA, (Last week) and A NIGHT SURPRISE, by W. Cromer; Music by German Reed. Mrs. German Reed, Miss Fanny Holland, Miss Leonora Braham, Mr. Corney Grain, Mr. A. Law, and Mr. Alfred Reed. Every Evening, except Thursday and Saturday, at 8; morning representations every Thursday and Saturday at 3. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s., and 5s. Can be secured in advance, without fee. On Monday, May 7, "No. 20," by F. C. Burnand.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LANGHAM-PLACE, OXFORD-CIRCUS.

EVANS'S
MUSIC AND SUPPER ROOMS,
COVENT GARDEN.

OLD ENGLISH, SCOTCH, IRISH, AND WELSH GLEES, AND CHORUSES.

By EVANS'S CELEBRATED CHOIR OF BOYS (under the direction of Mr. F. JONGHMANS), and the best available Comic Talent.

OPEN AT EIGHT.

Admission, One Shilling. Private Boxes, One Guinea.

A SUPPER ROOM FOR LADIES NOW OPEN.

Proprietor ... J. BARNES-AMOR.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, Langham-place,

Regent-street (Manager, Mr. Alfred Calmoun).—A SPECIAL MORNING PERFORMANCE of HAMLET will take place on Monday next, April 30th, 1877, on which occasion Mr. Horace Crichton supported by a talented London Company, will (for the first time in London) sustain the title rôle. Tickets, 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s., may be obtained, with full particulars, at the Theatre and Libraries. Doors open at 2; to commence at 2.30. Acting Manager, Mr. R. Taylor.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS'

NEW PROGRAMME having proved the Greatest Success of the Season WILL BE REPEATED EVERY NIGHT at 8.

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS at 3 also.

Doors open for the Day Performances at 2.30; for the Evening ditto at 7.15. Fauteuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s. and 2s.; Gallery, 1s. No fees. No Charge for programmes.

MISS VIOLA DACRE, on Tour, Theatre

Royal, Whitehaven. Six Nights. "Juliet," "Rosalind," "Violet" (Grimaldi), "Lillian Vavasour," "Clara Douglas."

MISS ALICE MAY will appear in MAN-

CHESTER (THEATRE ROYAL) on MONDAY NEXT. Her tour is a most brilliant success, and she has received flattering notices in every town she has visited.

MISS ALICE MAY "is as fascinating and

spirituelle as she is clever."—Advertiser. "With the aid of such an artist light comic-opera might once more enliven our evenings."—Telegraph.

MISS ALICE MAY'S "triumph was no mere

succès d'estime, but a thoroughly deserved conquest. The Australian Nightingale is a born actress; she is a pearl of price."—Dispatch. "One of the most brilliant performers that has been seen for years."—Sunday Times.

MISS ALICE MAY'S "same refinement of

manner, and quiet unobtrusiveness of style was apparent in Lange as in the rôle of Gerolstein's feminine governor."—Standard. "Her reception was more than a success—it was a triumph. Her voice is beautifully clear, tuneful, and 'young'; her art is elegant and piquant, full of grace and esprit; and her personal attractions are very considerable."—Irish Times.

MISS ALICE MAY'S New Ballad UNREST,

composed expressly for her by G. B. Allen (words by Rita), and sung everywhere, always commands an enthusiastic encore. "Both as regards words and music, the best song we have seen for a long time past."—Dramatic News.

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GAR-

DENS, Regent's-park, are open daily (except Sunday). Admission 1s., on Monday 6d., children always 6d. The Collection of Hunting Trophies and Zoological specimens made during the Indian tour of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Amongst the most recent additions are a large Anaconda and two young Orangs, presented by Dr. R. Sim, F.Z.S.

THE BRIGHTON COACH

WILL AGAIN COMMENCE RUNNING

EARLY IN JUNE,

VIA CROYDON AND REDHILL.

SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL,

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received in London by H. GRAVES, Esq., 6, Pall Mall; and in Stratford-on-Avon by the CHAIRMAN of the COUNCIL (C.E. Flower, Esq.). A complete list of subscribers will be made up in May, which with a report of the proceedings at the Ceremony of Laying the First Stone, on Shakespeare's Birthday, may be had upon application to the Secretary, C. LOWNDS, Esq., Stratford-on-Avon.

FRENCH GALLERY, 120, PALL MALL.—

The Twenty-fourth Annual Exhibition of Pictures, the contributions of Artists of the Continental Schools, is NOW OPEN from Nine to Six o'clock.

LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB.

STAMFORD BRIDGE GROUNDS, FULHAM.

Fulham main road, opposite the Chelsea Station.

FIRST SPRING MEETING, AND OPENING OF THE CLUB

GROUNDS by the LORD MAYOR and the LADY MAYORESS, on

(THIS DAY) SATURDAY, APRIL 28th, 1877.

PROGRAMME.

100 YARDS CHALLENGE CUP.

880 YARDS CHALLENGE CUP.

3 MILES WALKING CHALLENGE CUP.

600 YARDS CHINA CHALLENGE CUP.

120 YARDS HANDICAP.

440 YARDS HANDICAP.

1,000 YARDS HANDICAP.

3 MILES HANDICAP.

2 MILES WALKING HANDICAP.

Sports to begin at 3 o'clock. Presentation of Prizes at 5.30.

Band of the First Life Guards.

Admission One Shilling.

Grand Stand, Two Shillings (Tickets One Shilling each if bought before the Day); Horses, Five Shillings; Carriages, Ten Shillings; Drags, Brakes or Omnibuses, Twenty Shillings.

Tickets may be obtained at Hay's, Royal Exchange; at Austin's, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly.

LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB

GROUNDS, STAMFORD BRIDGE.

Fulham main road, opposite Chelsea Station.

GIBB (Four Miles Amateur Champion) v. SLADE (One Mile Amateur Champion).

The above amateurs have kindly consented to run a four miles match, or a medal, presented by the club, at the club grounds, on Monday, April 30, at six o'clock. Tickets admitting to the Grand Stand and Pavilion (1s. each) to be had at Hay's, Royal Exchange, and Austin's, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly. Admission on the day, 2s.

THE LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB.

At the SECOND SPRING MEETING of the above club, to be held at the club grounds, Stamford Bridge, Fulham, on Saturday, May 12, the following events will be open to amateurs:—

Long jump (two prizes)

Putting the Stone (two prizes)

Throwing the Hammer (two prizes)

Boxing, light weights (two prizes)

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NEXT WEEK'S NUMBER

OF THE

ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS,

WILL CONTAIN,

Incidents in the City and Suburban and Metropolitan, with Portraits of the winners, by J. Sturgess. Mr. W. H. Vernon in *Mammon*, a double-page study, by Matt Stretch. "The Race for the Four-Mile Amateur Championship—J. Gibb and W. Slade." "Sports, &c., in Africa," from a special correspondent and artist. "Shakspeare's Birthday at Stratford-on-Avon," sketches from the procession. "The Grand Masonic Ceremony of laying the Corner Stone of the Memorial Theatre." "The Rustic Sports in the Market-place." "Distinguished Guests at the Banquet," &c.

ELEGANT COSTUMES:—Messrs. JAY have received their Parisian Costumes. They are quite new in shape and garniture.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

EVENING DRESSES, Two Guineas and Two-and-a-Half Guineas each. The newest and most fashionable style, and made of non-crushing black tulle. Engravings of the same postage free on application.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

FOUR AND A HALF GUINEA BLACK SILK COSTUMES.—Engravings of Messrs. Jay's 4½-Guinea Costumes forwarded on application, gratis. Also a pattern of the quality of black silk from which these costumes are made.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

CAUTION.—In submitting patterns of Silk for approval, a narrower width than 24 inches is not unfrequently forwarded, and customers are thereby unable to make a just comparison of their relative value. Messrs. Jay therefore take the liberty of advising all purchasers of Black Silk, either by pattern or otherwise, to notice the width.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

IMPROVED JANUS CORD, BOTH SIDES ALIKE.

Ladies who at this season of the year wear Black Dresses will find JANUS CORD, at £1 11s. 6d. the full dress length, one of the most economical and best fabrics at the price ever manufactured for a lady's dress.

JAY'S,

The London General Mourning Warehouse, Regent-street, W.

MANCHESTER.

REAL ICE RINK, RUSHOLME.
NOW OPEN.

REAL ICE SKATING RINK,
RUSHOLME.

HOURS—ELEVEN TO ONE, 1s. 6d.; THREE TO FIVE, 2s. 6d.; AND SEVEN-THIRTY TO NINE-THIRTY, 1s. 6d.

Visitors can use their own Skates (which must be rounded at the heel), but Skates will be provided at 3d. per pair.

REAL ICE RINK.

OPEN DAILY.

£10.—IN RETURN FOR A TEN-POUND
NOTE, free and safe per post, one of

BENNETT'S LADY'S GOLD WATCHES,

Perfect for time, beauty, and workmanship, with keyless action, air tight, damp tight, and dust tight.

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GOLD CHAINS AT MANUFACTURERS' PRICES.

P.O.O. John Bennett.

BENNETT, 65, and 64, CHEAPSIDE.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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BY ARTISTS OF THE

Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News

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Mr. STREETER, 18, NEW BOND-STREET.

PRECIOUS STONES AND GEMS,

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS OF

GEMS IN THEIR ROUGH OR NATIVE STATE.

By EDWIN W. STREETER.

CHAPMAN AND HALL, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

THE ILLUSTRATED
Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1877.

CIRCULAR NOTES.

We learn from a paragraph that is going the rounds that "the Earl of Eglinton has declined to subscribe to the funds for the erection of a statue of Burns at Kilmarnock, on the ground that he has 'the bad taste to appreciate neither Burns's character nor poems.'" It is impossible to feel angry with this kind of person. And, indeed, when we come to think of it, the Earl's "bad taste" is natural enough. In his day, Burns said some dreadfully severe things of the order to which my lord of Eglinton belongs. He was guilty of the "bad taste" of using expressions which he ought in common decency to have repented of when he obtained the lofty post of Exciseman—but he didn't. He kept on hitting out at Earls and similar patrons of human poodles to the last. The weight of those blows must have been terrible indeed, when the inheritor of the Earldom of Eglinton feels them at this distance of time. Writes Henri Taine, an obscure Frenchman, whose works Lord Eglinton's literary friends are probably acquainted with, "There are men noble by nature, and they alone are noble; the coat is the business of the tailor; titles a matter for the Herald's office. Against men who reverse this natural equality Burns is pitiless." One wonders whether the mutinous Exciseman's celebration of the Tree of Liberty is one of the poems which his lordship especially "scanners at."

Upo' this tree there grows sic fruit,
Its virtue's a' can tell, man;
It raises man aboon the brute,
It makes him ken himself, man.
Gif ance the peasant taste a bit,
He's greater than a Lord, man.

It does not enter into our mind to conceive how an Earl could possibly appreciate Burns's life. The idea is simply monstrous! As a curious example of the operation of the law of evolution the Earl of Eglinton deserves a place in the literary chronicles of the time, which will doubtless be accorded him. He has revived the Eglinton Tournament with a difference. His noble ancestor was content to tilt with property lances in the knightly fashion peculiar to that sawdust king, the great Ducrow; he has elected to tilt with a pen. The world laughed at the circus performance of the past Earl, exactly as it laughs now at the stab in the air, of his marvellous descendant. For the rest the Burns-statue committee must be congratulated on having received from a literary member of the aristocracy a contribution of unique value. He has shown how needless a statue is. He has testified to the immortal pungency of the poet's words—the singular pathos of the poet's life. But every creature after its kind. If Sir Thomas Lucy had been asked to contribute to a statue to Shakspeare he would, we doubt not, have treated the application in something like the manner that the Earl of Eglinton has treated that of the Kilmarnock committee.

Mr. WILLIAM ALLINGHAM has published a volume of "Songs, Ballads, and Stories," in which the *Daily News* critic "misses the curious felicity of expression, and above all the feeling for rhythm which are indispensable qualifications of the lyrical poet." That is the critic's business. No judge of poetry worthy the name ever accused William Allingham of writing poetry. But be that as it may, the special rhythmical sin which has provoked an objection on the part of the critic being one that concerns the entire race of pastoral bards, we feel constrained to examine it on our own account.

To see the verdure new,
And to hear the loud cuckoo,
While sunshine makes the whole world gay,

is the passage which chiefly offends the ear of the censor, who remarks, "we do not exactly know whether 'the loud cuckoo' ever accents heavily on the second syllable, but we believe we may affirm that it is not his custom." That may be, but how has one of the earliest English poets whose strains are extant, "accented" the note? In a poem that was written in the thirteenth century, we find this passage:—

Sing cuccu, cuccu.
Awe bleteth after lomb,
Llouth after calne cu,
Bulluc sterteth, bucke vesteth:
Murie sing cuccu,
Cuccu, cuccu.
Wel singes thu cuccu;
Ne swik thu nauer nu.
Sing, cuccu nu,
Sing cuccu.

Did Mr. Allingham find a warranty for his accent, or Mr. Allingham's critic grounds for his objection to the said accent, in such a model as the above?

"THE age has grown so picked" they no longer exhibit specimens of the auricula at flower-shows, they stage 'em.

We hear that Mr. Savile Clarke has discovered one of his poems in the collection of those of the late Tom Hood, to which we alluded last week. Also that Mr. H. S. Leigh has discovered another, which makes six.

It is peculiarly interesting to know that Molière's comedy *Le Médecin Malgré lui* will be given in English at the Haymarket Theatre within the next three weeks at a morning performance. A gentleman hitherto unknown to the dramatic world is responsible for the adaptation, Mr. Gerald Dixon, a son of Mr. Hepworth Dixon. We wish his courageous venture all the success it deserves. We hear on good authority that Mr. Odell is enamoured of his part.

WHAT a surprising happy imagination that art critic must have had who wrote "With the blossoming of the pear-trees and the first green shimmering of the hawthorns come the spring exhibitions of water colours!" A stern regard for truth would have compelled us to write "With the blossoming of bronchitis, and the first sad shivering of those confiding citizens who had had their hopes shattered by the east wind." But then, we are not a poet.

"THERE was no doubt that to every thinking man the drinking customs of this country were an ulcer which was sapping the very vitality of the kingdom, and he believed, however, that these customs would ultimately be the force of education and example," etc. Would it surprise the reader to know that these beautiful and touching sentiments fell from the lips of the chairman of a licensed victuallers' association?

"MR. HOLMAN HUNT is expected in this country in June next." Really! Let us hope that he will not disappoint the expectations of his friends. Were he to determine to remain in Judea for the remainder of his working life, what would become of British art? We need the presence in our midst of the painter of miraculous shavings and phantom saw-dust to keep us going. Besides, the national honour is at stake. Since Gustave Doré espoused sacred art, a doubt has arisen in the minds of Mr. Spurgeon's congregation as to whether the illustrator of Rabelais, or the painter of "The Pot of Basil," is the diviner artist.

In a recent number of Dr. Parker's gushing weekly, *The Fountain*, a journal designed for the amelioration of the masses,—to improve their morals, deprive them of their beer, and abolish bearing-reins—we find the following choice morsel under the head of "Wit and Wisdom of Children":—"A juvenile, four years old, created a ripple by remarking to the teacher of her Sunday-school class: 'Our dog's dead. I bet the angels was scared when they see him coming up the walk. He's cross to strangers.'" We are curious to know whether that remarkable child's observation was wise or witty.

It would be rather diverting to find that those prescient gossipers on the press, who weeks since "arranged" that *The Courier of Lyons* should follow the withdrawal of *Richard III.*, at the Lyceum, were out in their forecast. A little bird whispers us that *The Courier* is not to be the piece. *Nous verrons.*

In the "Review of New Music," published in our last week's impression, the words as well as the music of several songs received notice. In some instances warm approbation was given to poetry which had been set to music, but we characterised as "utter twaddle" the words of two songs mentioned in our review. A few hours after publication we were favoured with the following communication, written on a halfpenny post-card, in a bold commercial handwriting that would do credit to any cheesemonger:—"Your music-critic (*sic*) must be aware that readers will buy the song—the words of which are described as 'utter twaddle'—(seemingly a favourite expression) in order to judge for themselves. and does he suppose they will agree with him? that is a question he should ask himself." As we are naturally anxious to show attention to a correspondent who pays us the compliment of communicating with us anonymously by means of a halfpenny post-card, we shall be glad to learn which of the two songs in question is referred to in the above elegant epistle. Our "music-critic," our drama-critic, our parliament-reporter, our lithograph-artist, our sport-writers, and our commerce-staff declare that they cannot understand how unfavourable comments on a song can promote an increase of its sale; but they can understand our correspondent's sympathy with twaddle.

MR. J. PARRY COLE'S CONCERTS.—The third of this enjoyable series of concerts took place on Thursday last, and was most deservedly successful. Of the nine encores that occurred during the evening the Trio in D. minor (Mendelssohn) by Herr J. Rosenthal, M. Albert, and Signor Tito Mattei took first place from a musical point of view, and was thoroughly appreciated. Signor Tito Mattei's pianoforte solo "4th Waltz," a composition of his own, was beautifully played, the audience not being satisfied with his bowing his acknowledgments, but insisting on a further taste of his quality. Of the vocal performers Miss Cora Stuart and Mr. W. Wallis Moylan may be mentioned in terms of high praise, the lady's fine voice being heard to great advantage in Linley's "Only for thee my heart is beating" and Cowen's "It was a dream," and the gentleman being equally successful with "Still is the night" (Abt) and "I fear no foe" (Pinsuti). If Miss Stuart will take a hint that is kindly meant, she will considerably tone down her habit of smirking and excessive bowing which would be invaluable in a circus, but is hardly appreciated by the patrons of West End concert rooms. Mr. Moylan would also do well to take a few lessons in stage deportment, in order that his appearance may produce less commiseration, since his manner is strongly suggestive of a whipped school-boy. Mrs. Bruce, Miss Susannah Cole, Mr. Burton, and Mr. Henry Pope also contributed vocal numbers, the latter gentleman being enthusiastically encored for his rendering of "Oh, oh, hear the wild winds blow," accompanied by the composer, Tito Mattei. Mrs. Bruce, who had the unenviable task of "singing in" the audience in both parts of the programme, may be congratulated on the possession of a soprano voice of very agreeable quality, coupled with considerable purity of style. When the nervousness inseparable from a first appearance has worn off, this lady will undoubtedly prove an eminently pleasing vocalist.

TURFIANA.

TAKING a Parthian glance at the course of events decided upon the last two days of Newmarket Craven Meeting, we find Skylark and Coltness, those curby hocked scions of the Mentmore king, fighting out an oft-fought battle once again in the Biennial, but the peer had the best of the commoner "this bout," and furthermore was enabled to cut in for the Claret later in the day with similar success, Twine the Plaiden, one of the vaunted "stayers" by Blair Athol, cutting a very poor figure, indeed. Refuse and Welter, and Selling Stakes made up the "leather and prunella" of Thursday's racing, and Friday showed but little improvement upon the preceding day's sport. Joachim is another of the winning young Paganini's, and though the lot he beat was not very grand, they numbered at least two winners among them in Little Fif and Belle of Sutherland; and it is evident that the "Fiddler" will be as popular at the stud as he was in training. Few people dreamed that Tassel's day had come at last in the "International" (a very hackneyed title now-a-days), in which the two top weights were soon out of it, and the French pair ran but indifferently. It is to be hoped that Julia Peachum got back some of the money for which she had been backed earlier in the week in the Selling Stakes, after the decision of which the curtain fell upon the last scene in the play, Mr. Sanford showing us a very rough and ready customer in his Brown Prince, one of those everlasting Lexingtons, who was straightway promoted to a place in the Derby quotations; and we hope to see the dark blue of Yankeeedom descending into the valley of fate at Epsom on the 31st of May next among that butterfly troop, scanned nervously through the glasses of expectant thousands on Stand and Hill. The two leading Derby favourites supplied sensations for the week, but not even the best authenticated accounts of Chamant's discomfiture by Verneuil could seriously shake the bay's position, and it was argued, and very justly, that the spin (if there was anything in it) only demonstrated the excellence of the chestnut, without in any way prejudicing the right of the bay to hold his proud position in "Continental betting" on the English Derby. As we have all along contended, since we first set eyes on the pair of young Mortemers at Doncaster, it is

poundage on the son of Regalia against the scion of Araucaria, so far as looks are concerned; and if Chamant should really be the "second Gladiateur," he will be the plainest Derby winner we have had since the days of Beadsman. As regards Plunger's case, there has been a colour given to the reports of his non-continuance in well doing by his temporary absence on several occa-

clergy, landowners, and inhabitants of the Kingsbury district sounds very ominous indeed, and is so totally at variance with certain other statements which have gone forth, that we not unnaturally pause for a reply. We have always been given to understand that "round robins" to an exactly contrary effect had already proceeded from Mr. Warner's neigh-

sions from the training ground, while rumours of his sale to Count "Hysteries" (as a Newmarket tout chose to designate the new owner) did not strengthen his position in the market. Despite the really good form shown on several occasions by the young Adventurer, he has never been a public fancy; nearly all the prophets and tipsters having unceremoniously discarded him, and we seldom find the Lord Clifden stamp of horse like Plunger formidable at Epsom. After all, there may be no real cause for alarm, and most of us will remember that both Favonius and Kisber were delivered fit and well at the post after some very rough blows from betting operators. Meanwhile, nothing seems to have profited by Plunger's fall, and Robert Peck's trio are evidently puzzling people; for though Actæon has slid out of the betting altogether, there may be a great revolution yet, when the lot are put together before the great race. The Monk is gaining ground, and Porter seems to be rattling him along at Kingsclere, while there are not a few who argue, that if he could get where he did in the Champagne, while quite a "shell of a horse," what may we not expect of him when he has filled out, let down, and thickened, as very reliable eye-witnesses report him to have done? Hidalgo, too, has been backed at lessening prices; but we take him to be one of the will-o'-the-wisp order of candidates that are perpetually cropping up at this season of the year.

The Sportsman, which has been throughout a consistent champion of the rights and privileges of suburban racing caterers, announces that "the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have sent a petition to the Middlesex magistrates, praying that they will not renew the license for the sale of drink at Kingsbury, and saying they will support the Bill before Parliament on the subject." Standing by itself, this action of the City ecclesiastical authorities might not amount to much, but a subsequent statement, "that a petition to the same effect has been presented to the same authorities by the resident



FAMOUS DANCERS II.—MISS FANNY ELSER.



THE NEW GROUNDS OF THE LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB AT STAMFORD BRIDGE, FULHAM.

bours at Kingsbury, and that mine host of the Welsh Harp was regarded in the light of a sort of model parishioner, filling the office of churchwarden and other posts, with the approbation of all concerned in the administration of the affairs of the village. Can these previous supporters of Mr. Warner's enterprising spirit now have turned round and petitioned against his innocent amusement; or is it true that the testimonials previously got up only represented the sentiments of certain individuals who were benefited by the irruption of Goths and Vandals upon their rural places of entertainment? As we said before, we recommend that a May Meeting at Exeter Hall be held on the subject, and that the "Resident" keep open house next door for the nonce, in order that some reliable expression of public feeling may be elicited.

Mr. Anderson might be persuaded to preside, and we feel quite certain that the mere mention of "atrocities" perpetrated at Kingsbury would bring the member for Greenwich to the meeting, which might then have the happy effect of diverting the great agitator's attention from political affairs. We commend this course to the consideration of the "Resident" and his aggrieved fellow-memorialisists.

At Cobham we note that Doncaster's dam has arrived to Blair Athol, being in foal to Macaroni, and we shall be curious to see whether the son will suit her as well as his sire. Nearly everything out of this daughter of Teddington has run, Rattle, Headingley, Doncaster, and St. Leger, and as yet All Heart is the only unprofitable one of the family. Marigold's union with Blair

Athol will endow the offspring with two crosses of Melbourne blood, an experiment which many breeders would be shy of making, though in this case it will have two admirable correctives in the Touchstone and Birdcatcher "contributories." The manager of the Royal Haras seems to be going in for Galopin, and quite a large stud is gradually being collected at Easton Lodge, where there is every facility for conducting breeding operations on a considerable scale, the soil and situation being good, and the extent of land precluding the possibility of overcrowding. Mr. Gee is sending some of his choicest Stockwell mares to Cardinal York, and the "nick" of Touchstone on Birdcatcher promises shortly to become as fashionable as the cross reverse-ways, now that Apology and Co. have brought it into fashion.



CASHMERE GOATS.

Everybody seems to be regretting the Palmer's extradition to Germany, and it is for this reason, among others, that we should like to see Pellegrino win the Derby, and thus ensure a succession to the "late lamented" pilgrim at the Neasham Hill top. Pero Gomez is now coming to the fore, but his stock, as a rule, have nothing like the fine quality of the young Palmers and Rosicrucians, and are more of the ungainly and angular Beadsman type. Pero himself was rather queerly put together, but in size and bone he can well hold his own against his "predecessors in office" at Kingsclere.

Epsom was well patronised by all classes of her Majesty's lieges, and it put us quite in mind of the old Prince Charlie days to see

Farnese towering above his fellows in the paddock, though the extra three furlongs was more than he cared to compass, and the muggy atmosphere and heavy ground were all against the big chestnut. Grey Friar is quite a commoner, but a hardy, honest sort; Finis, a nice 12 stone hunter, and Hellenist, very level and blood-like for a Toxophilite. The Maiden Plate lot were not very grand specimens, Priscillian being a light lathy customer, with not the best of joints, but Birdie is clever as paint, though rather on the small side, and won with ridiculous ease, the remainder all pulling up, so that placing a second or third might very well have been dispensed with. Almost the first of City and Suburban horses to cast his beaver into the ring was Julius Caesar,

whose reported scratching had been the sensation of the day before, but his appearance was reassuring enough, for he was full of muscle, with a bright eye and sleek coat, and walked every inch a king. Robert Peck's last word was to the effect that the issue would lie between him and Touchet—a prediction borne out to the very letter, for there was nothing near the pair, though Balbriggan managed to obtain recognition. Chaplet was quite the gem of the collection, but there was hardly enough of her, and she was dwarfed by the side of some of the "slashers," Tassel and Warrior to wit, the former of which is a square-built, hunter-like nag, seeming to move very stiffly behind, while Mr. Gomm's vaunted "crack" is a big, ungainly, three-cornered,

calish-looking brute, without any pretensions to girth, slack over the loins, and all legs and wings. Happily for his thick-and-thin admirers, he is not in the Derby, for which Touchet must now be dismissed as "out of the fight," while Warren Hastings, the Voltella colt, and Rosbach may also be added to the list of incapables for the big event, for which Peck will have a splendid line through Julius Caesar, and should be able by his help to tell the "time of day" to a certainty. Bondsman carried a deal of money, besides quite a novelty in colours, and Newport looked as wicked as ever. Sign Manual and St. Leger were pronounced to lack the final polish, and the most vulgar jacket we have seen for many a day was carried by Bonchurch, whose owner would seem to affect the livery of a City sheriff. Margarita and Sir William Wallace had their riders very shabbily attired, and without doubt the gaudiest "lot" was the red chestnut Cheetaah with his jockey in orange, quite a startling foil to the rest of the field. Paramatta got home cleverly enough for the Durdans Stakes, and is just one of that useful wearing sort which Victorians so frequently produce, but the ever dreaded Robert of Russley, was handy with Policy, quite the pick of the field so far as looks were concerned. The Welter we did not care to leave the paddock to witness, preferring a stroll down to the lower ground, where Julius Caesar was quietly cooling his heels after the race, bearing himself quite soberly and sedately, and followed by Grace, a charming half-sister to Actæon, with a very racing-like look about her, but a trifle light of bone and substance. The blaze-faced daughter of Scottish Chief won very easily at last, and is of better class altogether than Hudibras, rather a short, common-looking colt, with quite his father's head, but no great scope or liberty about him. Kebbuck is a very poor sort of specimen, narrow as a knife; while The Captain has no sort of Bruce form about him, though he may do better in time. The winner is, of course, Dewhurst bred, and reached 580 guineas at the July sale, and she had our good word then, as she has now. Altogether, it was quite one of those red-letter days peculiar to Russley, and if Mr. Gee is bent upon relinquishing the pursuit which has brought him so prominently before the breeding world, he has not been long in making his mark as an owner, and was evidently not so "green" in purchasing Julius Caesar as certain folks seem too ready to believe, and to insinuate.

On Wednesday, Sutherland "long expected come at last" did his party a good turn in the Great Surrey Handicap, Ceruleus running the same reliable horse as ever, but it is now more than ever certain that Chevron's Derby prospects are of the most forlorn character. Creature, one of the unfashionably bred French lot, took the Beaufort Stakes easily enough, though Lord Lonsdale had to put down a monkey as his "retaining" fee; and Julia Peachum (rather an unfortunate mare) was very near doing the same stable another good turn in the Pall Mall Stakes, but St. Moritz was too much for her at last, and the field comprised some notorious mediocrities. The Metropolitan, as usual, dwindled down to insignificance at last, and John Day was of so much better class than the rest, that it seems extraordinary "that old Lilian" should have had the call of him. The Fyfield representative, as usual, was thereabouts, and it would seem strange not to find Alec Taylor putting the final touches on something in the paddock before the race. Robert Peck seems to be fairly invincible, and it is quite on the cards that La Merveille, lent to the trainer for her racing career because he had taken Maximilian, will turn out the better bargain of the pair. She has a marvellous turn of speed, and over the half mile neither Queen of Pearls nor Ersilia were "in it" with her, though both will win races, and that, too, not in the worst of company. Birdie had had enough of it, and looked a trifle jaded, but in this kind of race a good start is everything, and the placed three got away on very favourable terms. Balbriggan made some amends to Mr. Lambert by carrying off the Prince of Wales's Stakes from Margarita and Sailor, and then, for a wonder, we had a field of seven for the Queen's Plate, in which New Holland showed what slender claims he possessed to the title of a cup horse, and Kingsclere (not mentioned in the betting) romped home an easy winner, in some degree justifying the good word Mr. Gee had for him as a yearling, when he was sold for his racing career only, with an eye to succeeding to his father's throne at Dewhurst.

The Two Thousand Guineas and its sister race are those at present staring us in the face, and we may as well clear the ground for these events by disposing of the few other races closed at the time of inditing these remarks. In a weight for age sweepstakes over the T.Y.C., *Petrarch* should surely be able to give a good account of himself, and for the Prince of Wales Stakes, Cesarewitch Course, we can pitch upon nothing more likely than *Skylark*, who should manage to dispose pretty comfortably of his old opponents Twine the Plaiden and Coltness, the remainder of the opposition ranks comprising only Strike, Tassel, and Wisdom. There are several winners in the First Spring Two Year Old Stakes, such as Telegram, Flash Filly, and Alsace, but *Grace* can take care of these well enough, should it be deemed worth while to send her so far to pick up this small stake. Another two year old race on Friday had better be left alone until the numbers go up, but we need not look farther than *Silvio* in the Newmarket Stakes, whatever his fate may be on the Wednesday, as he has only some very moderate ones to meet over the Ditch Mile. Not more than a dozen can be expected to muster for the championship of the Rowley Mile on Wednesday, but the ragged division may bring up the number slightly above the average, as some few will run to obtain lines for stable companions. If we name Thunderstone, Jagellon, Silvio, Lady Golightly, Cannon Ball, Chamant, one of Robert Peck's, and Brown Prince we shall probably have comprehended the "certainties," but such animals as Bay Athol, Swing, one of Mr. Crawford's, Boiador, Strachino, and another or two may possibly "cut in" and swell the field to respectable proportions. Chamant is as fit as need be, and no notice need be taken of his trial with Verneuil; but the chestnut will meet Strachino in France on Sunday, and there is no saying to what extent the betting may be revolutionised after that event, which may bring Baron Rothschild's colt very prominently forward in the quotations. For Thunderstone we have no fancy, though the course will suit his fine size and stride, while Jagellon and Brown Prince will be outclassed. Plunger we have not included among the starters, as he is at present under a cloud, and Monk may probably be an absentee, and in reserve for the Derby; while, pending Strachino's public trial, we prefer to suspend our judgment on the son of Parmesan. This leaves us with the Heath House and Russley lots to consider, and of the former we shall elect to pin our faith to Silvio, believing that Lady Golightly has not done well of late, and may be withdrawn with an eye to the "Ladies' Mile" race on Friday. Silvio won a good trial a fortnight ago, and, discarding his Biennial performance as simply unaccountable, we shall expect to see him running prominently at the Bushes Hill descent, if he does not last much farther on into the race. Robert Peck's trio are a puzzle, but believing that there are doubts concerning the ripeness of Actæon, and not having full faith in the pretensions of Morier, we are left with PELLEGRINO, and must couple him with CHAMANT to supply the winner, our only reason for not plumping for the former being the uncertainty which attaches to his running, concerning which, however, it is likely that we shall soon be better informed. To select a field for the One Thousand Guineas is not so easy as to pitch upon the winner, and in giving our sole and undivided confidence to PALM FLOWER,

we may hint at the probability of her having to dispose of one of Mr. Alexander's, Lady Ronald, Trommel, Morgiana, Nitocris, Vendurette, Tribute, and Helena, a task which she should not fail to accomplish if she has continued in her well doing during the winter.

*** We find a contradiction given to the paragraph inserted in the *Sportsman* to which we have alluded above, but have preferred to let our remarks stand, as it is rumoured that one or both of the petitions will probably be presented. The memorialists are possibly waiting to see whether there is any chance of Mr. Anderson's bill becoming law, for in the event of its passing, their work would obviously be one of supererogation.

CRICKET, ATHLETICS, &c.

RICHMOND CRICKET CLUB SPORTS were the principal athletic attractions on Saturday afternoon last, and, albeit the weather was most unfavourable, the Old Deer Park was numerously and fashionably attended to witness the usual lengthy programme that is annually provided. The conventional races for juveniles opened proceedings, W. Perrett (penalised ten yards) taking the under fifteen 300 yards handicap for townspeople, whilst the winner of a similar event (open to local schools) was E. Adlam, of Grosvenor School, who was in receipt of 15 yards' start. C. C. Martyr, 7 yards' start, took the club 150 yards handicap very easily in 16 sec, and the local tradesmen's handicap was secured by E. W. Rednap, 10 yards' start, he coming in second to R. Fairley, 70 yards, who was disqualified, however, for being without the radius. In addition to these contests there were no fewer than five competitions open to the members of other recognised clubs, but I fancy the entries were barely up to those of previous years, the most notable falling off being in the walking handicap, which fell to P. Freeman, of the St. Andrew's C.C., who had 105 sec start from C. M. Callow, of the Civil Service; I do not know who handicapped, but he was very hard on the veteran, the winner's time being 16min 52sec. C. C. Martyr, a member of the R.C.C., with 8½ yards, secured his second victory during the afternoon in the 120 yards handicap, winning easily by a couple of yards from R. G. Bolton, L.A.C., 7½ yards, the third man being H. England, 6 yards, also of the L.A.C.; time, 12sec. The Two Miles Bicycle Handicap fell an easy prey to the scratch man, N. Whiting, London B.C., time 8min 19 3/4thsec; and the quarter of a mile was secured by F. W. Robinson, L.A.C., 20 yards start; C. C. Clarke, Esher C.C., 10 yards start, being beaten by a couple for second; and defeating H. H. Sturt, L.A.C., 3 yards, by double that distance, 52 2/5thsec. Both those crack distance runners, W. Slade, champion amateur at a mile, and J. Gibb, champion amateur four-miler, went to the post for the mile handicap, the former of course being at scratch, whilst "Jimmy," as his familiars call him, had 40 yards start. The champion did not run through, but Gibb was only beaten five yards by B. Smith, L.A.C., 180 yards, who was decidedly the pick of the handicap, and why he should be in receipt of twenty yards from J. Waddington, jun., who was third, only the framer of the starts knows. The time was 4 min. 23 4/5 sec, which on a grass course is enough to make even a champion retire. R. H. Shaw, Great Marlow F.C., 115 yards, was fairly thrown in for the one mile and a quarter steeplechase, and he accordingly won as he pleased, although he only finished ten yards in front of Waddington, 125 yards start; A. E. Duncan, of the Barnes F.C., 50 yards, being third. Time, 5min. 55sec. This day (Saturday) the London A.C. open their new ground at Stamford Bridge, near Chelsea Station, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress having kindly consented to preside, whilst on Monday evening W. Slade and J. Gibb run their great four-miles match, and although the Harrier was beaten last year, I half fancy he will turn the tables upon the present occasion. On Saturday last W. Howes, the celebrated pedestrian, again walked twenty-one miles under three hours at the Powderhall Grounds, Edinburgh, and although rain fell, and the course was very heavy, he won with 37 sec to spare.

Cricketers are now beginning to look about themselves, college matches having already taken place at both Universities, and yesterday (Friday) the Light Blue Freshmen's Match was decided. The Gentlemen of Surrey have started a club, and meetings are to be held at Beddington Park. This is a step in the right direction. Many fixtures have been decided all over the United Kingdom, and in a future issue I intend giving a full and correct list.

Billiards have been quiet in the metropolitan district, but at Manchester last Friday and Saturday Taylor gave J. Bowell, the local crack, 200 points in 1,000 for a stake of 100 sovs, and just won on the pinch by 14 points, and so close a thing was it that the Manchester player challenged him again. On Monday evening G. Hunt gave F. Smith 300 in 1,000 for 20 sovs, and beat him by 27 at Turner and Price's saloon, Waterloo-road. On Thursday Taylor played Joseph Bennett 1,000 up even for 200 sovs on a championship table.

There was some rare bicycling at Pomona Gardens, Manchester, last Saturday and Monday, when a twenty-five miles professional handicap fell to J. Keen, scratch, he being followed home by S. Rawson, Derby, 7min 30sec start, and D. Stanton, London, 4min; time, 1h 50min 49 3/4sec; whilst a two miles handicap for amateurs was taken by C. J. Bryan, of Manchester, 300 yards start, *proxime accessit*, F. Lee, Runcorn, 250 yards; time, 7min 26 1/2sec. W. R. Thomas and C. Dye ran for the championship of Hampshire at the East Hants Recreation Grounds, Southsea, and the former won by three yards. Next Saturday a series of races will be held at Kennington Oval, under the auspices of the Surrey B.C.

On Saturday evening last, I was present at an assault of arms, given under the auspices of the Cadogan Swimming Club, at the Swimming Baths, King's-road, Chelsea. Considering that this is the first venture of the new club, which contains many well-known members of the athletic world, the affair may be described as a great success. Perhaps I may venture to offer one or two suggestions to the executive, as to the arrangements for future entertainments of the same nature. It would be as well, both for competitors and spectators were a little more light to be provided immediately over the arena where the different contests take place, and if a roped ring (which could be fixed or removed in a very few minutes), for the boxing, foils, and single stick were provided, it would prevent the front row of spectators, ladies especially, from being ever on the alert not to receive a blow on the head from a stick, or to have a gentleman in "gloves" taking a seat uninvited on their laps. When it is stated that Mr. William Waddell, the ever courteous and obliging hon. sec. of the London Athletic Club, officiated as master of the ceremonies, enough has been said. The boxing, of which there were three bouts, seemed to please the company more than anything else in the programme. Messrs. H. S. Giles and A. Bultitude, amateur light-weight champions for 1875 and '76 respectively, knocked each other about merrily, apparently to their mutual satisfaction, but the former, who has thickened wonderfully lately, had much the best of three lively rounds. Later on in the evening, Mr. J. Douglas, middle-weight champion, and Abe Daultry opposed each other, and the amateur ably held his own with the "Professor." The heavy weights, Mr. R. Frost-Smith and Ned Donnelly, were the penultimate item on the programme, and had three good-tempered rallies

Mr. C. G. Cudby (L.A.C.) wielded the Indian clubs in his well-known graceful style, and Professor Waite went through his usual feats with the sword. Foils had as their exponents Messrs. R. Pullman and F. R. Smith, and Mr. C. S. Sowerby and the first-named. The single-stick play was not remarkable for its excellence, but the horizontal bar exercise, by Messrs. T. and W. Cook, F. W. Esden, and F. W. Newmarsh, members of the St. James's Athletic Club, was as near perfection as possible. The stereotyped tug of war wound up a pleasant evening's entertainment, which was fully appreciated by a large number of spectators, for whose delectation a very good band, under the direction of Mr. Asperne Deane, performed a well-selected repertoire.

The complimentary dinner given to O'Leary, in commemoration of his late defeat of Weston at the Agricultural Hall, in their great six days' walk, took place on Wednesday evening last, under the presidency of the Chevalier O'Clery, M.P. Among the company were Mr. P. M. O'Sullivan, M.P., Dr. O'Leary, M.P., Major O'Gorman, M.P., Mr. Biggar, M.P., Mr. Parnell, M.P., Mr. N. Ennis, M.P., Mr. McCarthy Downing, M.P., and O'Connor Power, M.P. The Irish American, I notice, intends to return across the "herring pond" at once, and declines to walk any more matches in this country, but, at the same time, he offers to bet £500 that neither Weston or Crossland beats his time for 520 miles in their walk, should that match ever take place.

Aquatics have been virtually a dead letter since my last, and until the annual May eight-oared college races take place at the Universities, I am afraid I shall have little or nothing to say de *his* EXON.

THE NEW GROUND OF THE LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB.

THE London Athletic Clubs' new ground, which will be opened by the Lord Mayor this day, an illustration of which will be found in another part of the paper, is well situated, being close to the Chelsea Station on the Fulham-road. It consists of about 8½ acres, and was formerly a market garden. It has been well laid out, and a very elegant Grand Stand erected, together with refreshment, dressing, and other rooms, and a suitable space allotted for carriages. The running ground is nearly oval, quarter-mile lap, and there is a fine straight track of 250 yards. These grounds will be used exclusively by amateurs. On Monday next a most exciting match will take place between Messrs. Slade and Gibb, the Amateur champion.

Particulars of these events will be found in full on our second page.

COMING EVENTS.

DRAMATIC.

Mr. CRESWICK's benefit will take place on Wednesday, May 23rd, at the Gaiety, and the farewell dinner at the Criterion on the Monday following.

Orphée aux Enfers, will be produced at the Alhambra on the 30th inst.

Miss Dacre, who is now "starring" at Whitehaven, will shortly appear in a drama by Mosenthal, the author of *Deborah (Leah)*, adapted by Mr. Schömler.

Mrs. Monckton and other distinguished amateurs will play *Tears, The Ladies' Battle*, and an *Unwarrantable Intrusion* at the Opera Comique on May 5th.

Bullock's Marionettes, re-appear at St. James's Hall on the 27th May.

The French season at the Gaiety opens with *L'Ami Fritz* on 21st May.

Perey, a new drama, will be produced at the Globe on Monday night.

Mr. Marius takes his first benefit in London to day (Saturday) at the Strand Theatre. The chief attraction in the bill is *The First Night*, a piece with which the name of Alfred Wigan has long been honorably connected.

The benefactor will essay the principal rôle, and we shall be greatly surprised if he do not greatly add to his reputation by so doing.

Mr. Marius has his deserts the house will be crowded. He will speak a address, written for him by Mr. Robert Kece.

The last twelve representations at the Lyceum are announced of *Richard III.*, which will be withdrawn after the morning performance of Saturday week, May 12.

Miss Bateman taking her benefit on the same evening, when Tennyson's play *Queen Mary* will be revived, with Miss Bateman and Mr. Henry Irving in their original characters.

The second morning performance of *The Vicarage and London Assurance* at the Prince of Wales's will take place next Saturday, May 5.

A performance for the benefit of the General Theatrical Fund will take place at the Gaiety, on the afternoon of Monday week, when Mr. Charles Mathews will appear as Plumper in *Cool as a Cucumber*, and Coleman's comedy of *John Bull* will be represented, supported by Messrs. Phelps, Toole, Vezin, Brough, and Kendal; Miss Litton, Mrs. Leigh, Miss Hollingshead; Messrs. Maclean, Barnes, Soutar, Leigh, Valentine Norman, &c.

A benefit in aid of the rescued miners and their heroic deliverers will be given at the Folly Theatre on Thursday, May 3, on which occasion will be produced at a morning performance the successful burlesque of *Oxygen; or Gas in Burlesque Metre*. Miss Lydia Thompson, Messrs. Brough, Edouin, and every member of the company, and all the employees giving their gratuitous services. Doors open at two, commencing at half-past.

Seats can be secured at the Box-office, or at any of the libraries.

A morning performance of *Peep o' Day* will take place for the same meritorious object, at the Adelphi, on Monday next.

Messrs. Janes and Thorne having received very remunerative offers for a series of representations of *Our Boys*, at one of the Paris theatres, intend shortly proceeding with the entire of their Vaudeville company, to the French capital, where they will play Mr. Byron's comedy for one month.

Mr. E. Kington will undertake the management of the Globe Theatre next month, commencing about the 21st. Among the companies already engaged are Miss Lydia Foote, Mr. John Billington, and Mr. W. J. Hill.

An adaptation, by Mr. W. Jerrold Dixon, of Molière's *Medecin Malgre Lui*, will be produced at the Haymarket, most likely at a matinee next Saturday, May 5. Mr. Odell will sustain the part of Sganarelle.

Mr. Tom Taylor's *An Unequal Match*, specially revised and partly rewritten by the author, will be the next revival at the Prince of Wales's.

Mrs. Chippendale's benefit at the Gaiety takes place on the afternoon of Wednesday next, when *The Rivals* will be represented with an unusually good cast, including Mr. and Mrs. Chippendale, as Sir Anthony Absolute and Mrs. Malaprop; Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, as Captain Absolute and Lydia Languish; Mr. Leeddale, as Falkland; Mr. Beveridge, as Sir Lucius; Mr. Lionel Brough, as Bob Acres; Mr. W. J. Hill, as David; Miss Compton and Miss Farren.

MUSICAL.

M. de Beriot, the son of Malibran and de Beriot, is expected to arrive in England in the course of the present musical season; as is also Signorina Luisa Cognetti, a pianist and a pupil of the Naples Conservatoire, and Mdlle. Jeanne Debillemont, who, two years ago, carried off the *premier prix* for pianoforte at the Paris Conservatoire.

Prosperity does not damp the activity of the management of Mr. and Mrs. Geerman Reed's agreeable entertainment. Two alterations in the programme are announced for the 7th of next month—Mr. Corney Grain withdraws his new edition of "Five o'Clock Tea" for a musical sketch called "Edwin and Angelina;" and a new second part, of a very humorous character, under the quaint title of "No. 204," by Mr. F. C. Bernard, with the music by Mr. German Reed, will also be produced. Other novelties, we hear, are in active preparation.

ATHLETICS.

The Weston-super-Mare and East Somerset Athletic Society's sports are announced for July 9 and 10, when prizes valued at 150 guineas will be contended for.

AQUATIC.

The summer eights of the Oxford University Boat Club have been fixed for May 9 and following days, and it has been unanimously resolved to present medals to the Oxford crew as if they had been victorious in the recent contest.

Ash and Phipps have been matched to row from Putney to Mortlake for £20 on May 20.

An honorary member of the Surrey Alliance Rowing Club has given five handsome goblets to be rowed for in fours by any amateur rowing clubs on the Surrey side of the Thames, who have never entered, rowed, or won any public race for prizes or money.

SHOOTING.

The committee of The Gun Club has altered the date of shooting for the New Challenge Cup to Tuesday, May 8.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The annual dinner of that admirable charitable institution the Newspaper Press Fund takes place on Saturday, May 5. Its secretary is Mr. John Byrne, and its offices are at 55, Strand, London, W. C.

Colonel Clitheron and Mr. Stewart Freeman will start the Brighton Coach early in June through Croydon and Kedhill.

The Long Melford Archers' prize meetings are fixed for the 17th of July and the 28th of August, in Melford Hall Park.

THE DRAMA.

REVIVALS have again constituted the only changes this week. Mr. W. S. Gilbert's fairy comedy, *The Palace of Truth*, at the Haymarket on Saturday night, and Mr. Edward Falconer's Irish drama, *The Peep o' Day Boys*, at the Adelphi on the same evening.

The week, however, was not altogether devoid of novelties, although presented temporarily on Saturday afternoon at the Opera Comique on the occasion of Mr. G. W. Anson's benefit, a new farce, *Bachelor's Hall*, and an apropos sketch *Hamlet à la Mode*, both by Mr. G. L. Gordon, and in both of which the benefice sustained the leading character, giving, in the latter, some clever imitations of Mr. Irving. Mr. Anson also displayed his versatility and lingual accomplishments by his finished impersonation of a leading character in the little French comedy, *Une Tasse de Thé*, which was played in the original language, and in which Mr. Anson had able coadjutors in Mdlle. Hébert and Messrs. Loredan and Marius. The attractive programme included also *A Quiet Rubber*, by the original exponents from the Court Theatre, Messrs. Hare, Kelly, and Herbert, and Miss Plowden; and the wooing scene between Helen and Modus from *The Hunchback*, amusingly enacted by Miss Ellen Terry and Mr. Conway.

At the Gaiety, on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Sydney Grundy's adaptation of Octave Feuillet's *Montjoie*, entitled *Mammon*, which was so successful when recently brought out at the Strand on the occasion of Mr. Vernon's benefit, was reproduced, and again elicited warm approval. With the exception that Miss Florence Brunel replaced Miss Emma Rita in the character of Miss Violet Heriot, the cast was the same as at the Strand, and already noticed in these columns. Mr. Vernon was again the unscrupulous financier, Sir Geoffrey Heriot, and Mrs. Fairfax, Lady Heriot; Miss Fanny Hughes, Mrs. Chinnery; Mr. J. D. Beveridge, her husband, Mark; Mr. Graham, the young lover, George Sorrell; Mr. Palmer, the newspaper proprietor, Wentworth; and Mr. Chamberlain, the wily secretary, Parker.

Mr. Charles Wyndham has organised a new series of dramatic performances at the Crystal Palace, to comprise Mr. Boucicault's plays, *The Colleen Bawn*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *Arrah-na-Pogue*, *Hunted Down*, and *Faust and Marguerite*. The series commenced on Tuesday last, when *The Colleen Bawn* was represented, with Mr. and Mrs. Billington in their original characters of Hardress and his mother, Mrs. Cregan, supported by an efficient cast in the other characters; and the *Corsican Brothers*, with Messrs. Charles Harcourt, G. Leathes, Markby, E. Atkins, H. Ashley, and Mrs. Leigh Murray, Miss Ellen Meyrick, and Miss Myra Holmes in the leading characters, was selected for Thursday.

Morning performances at the theatres are increasing in popularity, and gradually becoming permanently established. Today's comprise *The Man of the World*, with Mr. Phelps as Sir Pertinax Macgryphon, at the Gaiety; *Richard III.*, with Mr. Irving, at the Lyceum; *The Pink Dominoes* at the Criterion, *Oxygen* at the Folly, and the usual afternoon representation of *Cyril's Success* at the Aquarium Theatre, besides the customary entertainments at Hengler's, German Reed's, Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Maskelyne and Cooke, &c.

In addition to the foregoing, there will also be three special performances this afternoon.

At the Opera Comique the Irrational Amateur Dramatic Club give their last performance this season, for the benefit of the Ladies' Work Society, of which institution H.R.H. the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) is president. The performance will be under the patronage of Her Royal Highness, who has signified her intention of being present. The programme will consist of *The First Night*, *The Rough Diamond*, and the comic operetta of *Box and Cox*, supported by the following ladies and gentlemen amateurs:—The Hon. Lady Sebright, Miss Ellen Sheridan, Miss St. Quinten, Miss Measor, Majors Mahon and Rideout, Captains FitzGeorge, E. C. Johnson, Barington Foote, Messrs. Maclaine, Bingham, Colnaghi, Fairheld, Tree Beerbohn, Tweedie van Tromp, W. F. Quinten, &c.

At the Olympic the students of the Neville Dramatic School will give a performance of *The Hunchback* in aid of the funds of the Newport Market Refuge and Industrial School, under the distinguished patronage of the Marchioness of Ripon, the Countess of Westmoreland, the Countess of Bective, Lady Rose Weigall, Lady Emily Kingscote, the Hon. Mrs. Henry Butler, Mrs. Scudamore, Mrs. Goschen, Mrs. Gordon of Cluny, and Mrs. W. E. Gladstone.

At the Strand a very attractive and varied programme will be presented for the first benefit in England of the versatile and accomplished artist, M. Marius, comprising besides other entertainments, a revival for the first time for upwards of twenty years of the once popular farce *Not to be Done*, and *The First Night*, in which Mr. Alfred Wigan's famous part of Achille Talma Dufard will be sustained by M. Marius, who will also deliver an address, written by Mr. Robert Reece.

The events announced for to-night are the revival at the St. James's of Mr. Charles Reade's drama of *The Wandering Heir*, in which Mrs. John Wood will sustain her original character of Philippa Chester, which she created when the piece was first produced at the Queen's; *Leah*, with Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) at the Lyceum; a revival of *The Cosy Couple*, with Mr. Charles Mathews in his original character, at the Gaiety, and Mrs. Hermann Vezin's farewell benefit and last appearance in London, at the Globe, where she will appear in selections from *King John* and as Mrs. Oakley in the *Jealous Wife*, supported in the former by Messrs. H. Marston, Ryder, Fernandez, &c., and in the latter by Messrs. Creswick, Stephens, &c.

On Monday night, Offenbach's opera, *L'Orphée aux Enfers*, with the additional music and magnificent Parisian *mise en scene* will be produced at the Alhambra. Mr. Edgar Bruce produces, at the Globe, a new play entitled *Percy*, followed by a revival of *Vesta's Temple*, in which Mr. W. J. Hill will sustain his original character of Gummidge; and *The Shaughraun* will be again revived at the National Standard.

To-night also will be the last performance of the French equestrian company at Hengler's Cirque: and of Miss Kate Santley and her opéra-bouffe company at the National Standard.

The Royalty re-opens on the same evening under the management of Mr. W. B. Henry, with a new farce by Mr. Haywell, entitled *Phil's Folly*; followed by Mr. Craven's burletta, *The Village Nightingale*; and concluding with Mr. Byron's burlesque, *Funhoe*, in the last of which Miss Nellie A. Henry will make her first appearance in England. Among Mr. Henry's company are Miss Fanny Hughes (Mrs. A. Swanborough), Miss Amalia, Miss Stenbridge, Miss Nelly Vincent, and Messrs. George Barrett, H. M. Clifford, Wyke Moore, J. Vincent Owen, &c.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

Mr. Rae's comedy, *Fame*, which replaced Mr. Gilbert's mythological play of *Pygmalion and Galatea*, having unfortunately failed to attract, was wisely withdrawn by the management after its ninth representation, on Tuesday night last week, and *Pygmalion* again resumed its place in the bills for three intervening evenings till Saturday, when Mr. Gilbert's fairy comedy, *The Palace of Truth*, was revived, to the infinite satisfaction of

the very crowded and distinguished audience that assembled on the occasion. Several changes have taken place in the Haymarket company since this charming and amusing idyllic comedy was first produced on the boards some six or seven years ago, so that the present cast differs in some essential respects. Mr. Buckstone and Mrs. Chippendale are again the fantastic King Phanor and the Queen Altemire; Miss Caroline Hill, who received a warm welcome on her return to her old quarters, resumes her original part of the Lady Mirza; Messrs. Everill and Clarke fill their old parts of the rival courtiers, Chrysal and Zoram, and Mr. Braid is again at home as the chamberlain Gelunor. Mr. W. Herbert and Miss Marion Terry succeed Mr. and Mrs. Kendal as the Prince Philamir and Princess Zeolide; Miss Annie Lafontaine replaces Miss Fanny Gwynne as Azema, Miss Ella Dietz appears for the first time as Palmis, and Mr. Howe undertakes the small part of the blunt and truth-speaking Aristæus, originally played by the late Mr. Rogers. Notwithstanding so many changes in the cast and allowing for the nervousness naturally felt by some of the new exponents, the representation on Saturday night was throughout excellent, and well deserved the enthusiastic reception it met with. The fanciful story was followed with as deep an interest as of old, and the humour and embroglios in the second act caused by the compulsory truth-telling influence of the magic palace, created as much amusement and laughter as ever; not alone from the inherent merits of the incidents and situations themselves, but due as well to the artistic and humorous interpretation of their respective impersonations by Mr. Buckstone and Mrs. Chippendale, and Messrs. Everill and Clarke. Mr. W. Herbert looked princely as Philamir, and acted the part with finished ease and grace. Miss Marion Terry represented the Princess Zeolide with exquisite refinement and delicacy, charmingly winning in manner and picturesque in movement and action, distinguishing herself more especially in her fervent pleadings to Mirza, and still more in the interview in the Palace of Truth with Philamir, where she hears his avowals that his love was only pretended, and that it was merely his vanity that was flattered by the confession of her love. Miss Terry's acting in this scene was truly great, and culminated in an outburst of outraged feeling far beyond any display of fervent passion she has previously exhibited, and so intense, without any exaggeration, that it quite electrified the audience. Miss Caroline Hill, too, in this act, where, having been deprived of the talisman, she becomes subject to the magic influence of the palace, and wildly confesses her perfidy to Philamir, produced by her powerful acting equally warm applause. Miss Annie Lafontaine gave a well-studied and brightly intelligent rendering of the volatile coquette Azema, and Miss Ella Dietz made a pretty and pleasing Palmis. Last, but not least, Mr. Howe by his artistic finish and appropriate bluntness elevated the small part of the plain-speaking Aristæus into prominent importance. The revival was preceded by Mr. Reece's fanciful conceit of *Birds in their Little Nests Agree*, and followed by the farce of *Tom Noddy's Secret*, both of which have now been for some time in the bills.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

THE T. P. Cooke prize nautical drama *True to the Core*, after a brief but not very successful career on its reproduction, was replaced on the boards by another revival of Mr. Edmund Falconer's Irish drama *The Peep o' Day*, which, often as it has been revived since its first production at the Lyceum Theatre, when under the management of Messrs. Chatterton and Falconer some sixteen years ago, seems to have lost none of its popularity, to judge by the fervent enthusiasm with which it is now received. The play is again admirably put on the stage. The lively scene of the Pattern Fair in the second act, with its bustling crowds of peasantry, and the inevitable Irish jig and final scrimmage, produced the usual applause, and the famous sensation scene of the Foil Doilul, where the heroine is rescued, was as effective and exciting as ever. Besides the author and Mr. McIntyre, who resume their original characters of Barney O'Toole and Black Mullins, the cast is quite efficient, and includes Mr. H. Sinclair as Henry Kavanagh, Mr. L. G. Shore as Stephen Purcell; Mr. S. Emery (who, however, was unable through illness to appear on Saturday evening) as the Rev. W. O'Cleary, the part originally played by the late Mr. Addison, and read on 'Saturday night by Mr. Dolman; Miss Huds-peth as Mary Grace, Miss Edith Stuart as Kathleen, and Miss C. Nott as Mrs. Kavanagh. The children's pantomime *Goody Two Shoes* still concludes the programme, which commences with the farce of *The Rendezvous*.

GRANVILLE HALL.—The programme of last Saturday evening was more than usually attractive, and afforded much enjoyment to a tolerably full audience. The opening piece was the comedieta, *Delicate Ground*, in which Miss Fanny Hughes (Mrs. A. Swanborough) of the Strand Theatre, represented Pauline with refined delicacy and archness, and was well supported by Mr. Walter Joyce as citizen Sanford, and Mr. Harry Crouch as Alphonse. Then followed Buckstone's farce of *A Rough Diamond*, in which Miss Fanny Hughes again distinguished herself in her well-known assumption of Margery; Mr. Harry Crouch causing much hilarity by his humorous impersonation of Cousin Joe, and Messrs. Walter Joyce, R. D. Fry, and Horace Lash-broke lending effective aid respectively as Sir William Evergreen, Lord Pluto, and Captain Blenheim. As a concluding *bonne bouche* Mr. R. D. Fry created abundance of laughter by his clever impersonation of Sergeant Buzfuz.

Mr. Mayer has made another fiasco at the Duke's Theatre, and the representations of the *Two Mothers* are now carried on by a commonwealth of the company, with Mr. Billington as the leader.

A FAMOUS "WHIP."

AMONGST the most famous of the stage coaches of our fathers, was "The Telegraph," which ran on the Old Southampton road, and was for many years driven by a man whose fame as "the best whip in England," has survived even to the present day. His name, John Peer, is still remembered on the road, and stories of his skill and his wonderful doings are still talked of in old roadside inns and at the tables of good old country gentlemen, with whom he was an especial favourite. Nimrod, in his articles on "The Road," said, "As for Peer on the 'Telegraph,' he is unrivalled. He is 'peerless,' or like Hunt's jet blacking, he is matchless." This famous "Whip" was discovered in 1862 amongst the poor of a London union, still cheerful, and still a favourite amongst those with whom the downfall of coaching had unfortunately associated with him. Jack Peer was always a favourite—frank and honest, gallant and generous, he made friends with high and low, and when a worthy English baronet—himself a famous amateur whip—exerted himself in the poor old pauper's behalf, the appeal was promptly responded to by numerous friends and admirers, by whom he was speedily assigned a more independent position. He was then still hale and hearty, and a Hampshire gentleman who invited him to stay with him at his residence, "near the scene of his former glory," described him as "the Prince of 'Whips.'" Thanks to these friends, his latter days were rendered far more comfortable than they otherwise would have been, and many will be glad to recognise in our pages the once well-known and still well-remembered face of a worthy man, who for so many years enjoyed the patronage and society of the highest in the land.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MISS HENRIETTA HODSON AND MR. W. S. GILBERT.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS.)

SIR,—Miss Henrietta Hodson has thought proper to address a letter to the members of the dramatic profession, in which she describes certain so-called "persecutions" which she claims to have suffered at my hands. As I have referred the matter to my solicitors, I will not trouble you with any detailed reply to the gross mis-statements contained in Miss Hodson's pamphlet. Perhaps, however, you will allow me to submit to your readers two letters—one from Mr. Buckstone, and the other from Mr. Howe—which completely exonerate me from Miss Hodson's principal charge—that I have persistently intrigued to thwart her interests since her engagement at the Haymarket Theatre.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. S. GILBERT.

24, The Boltons, 25th April, 1877.

MR. J. B. BUCKSTONE TO MR. W. S. GILBERT.

Lower Sydenham, 18th Feb., 1877.

MY DEAR GILBERT,—When Miss Hodson was engaged by me [it was] for the present season, which terminates on the 1st of June next, at which date I have sub-let the theatre to Mr. J. S. Clarke for three months. She could not think, *neither does she think*, that you have acted in opposition, in any way, to her interests, and I have not re-engaged her simply because I do not require her services for next season, also that she is too expensive. Miss Terry, it has long been settled, was to play Zeolide and Miss [Leighton] Mirza, without any reference at any time to Miss Hodson. Mr. Howe knows this, and, if required, can honestly state that fact.

I do not know that I can say any more to assure you that you have not acted in opposition to Miss Hodson's interests at any time.—Truly yours,

(signed) J. B. BUCKSTONE.

MR. H. H. HOWE TO MR. W. S. GILBERT.

Theatre Royal, Haymarket, 3rd March, 1877.

DEAR MR. GILBERT,—I was much surprised to find Miss Hodson still under an impression that you are at fault that she is not cast Zeolide in the *Palace of Truth*, although I have told her you gave your consent that she might play the part, as you also did as to the part of Galatea in *Pygmalion*. The real truth of the matter is that the management consider that Miss Terry has so succeeded in the parts she has played with us, that she is an attraction with the public, and that it is to their interest that she should appear in the principal piece of the evening. It is quite out of the question to ask her to play such a part as Mirza, which requires a staid appearance, and stronger style than she possesses. I expected, from the manner the rehearsals of *Pygmalion* were conducted, that all grievances were removed, especially as you offered Mr. Buckstone to write a part for her in your next new piece, but as Mr. Buckstone engaged Miss Hodson only for this season, that will not be available, because you do not produce it during her engagement.—Yours faithfully,

(signed) H. H. HOWE.

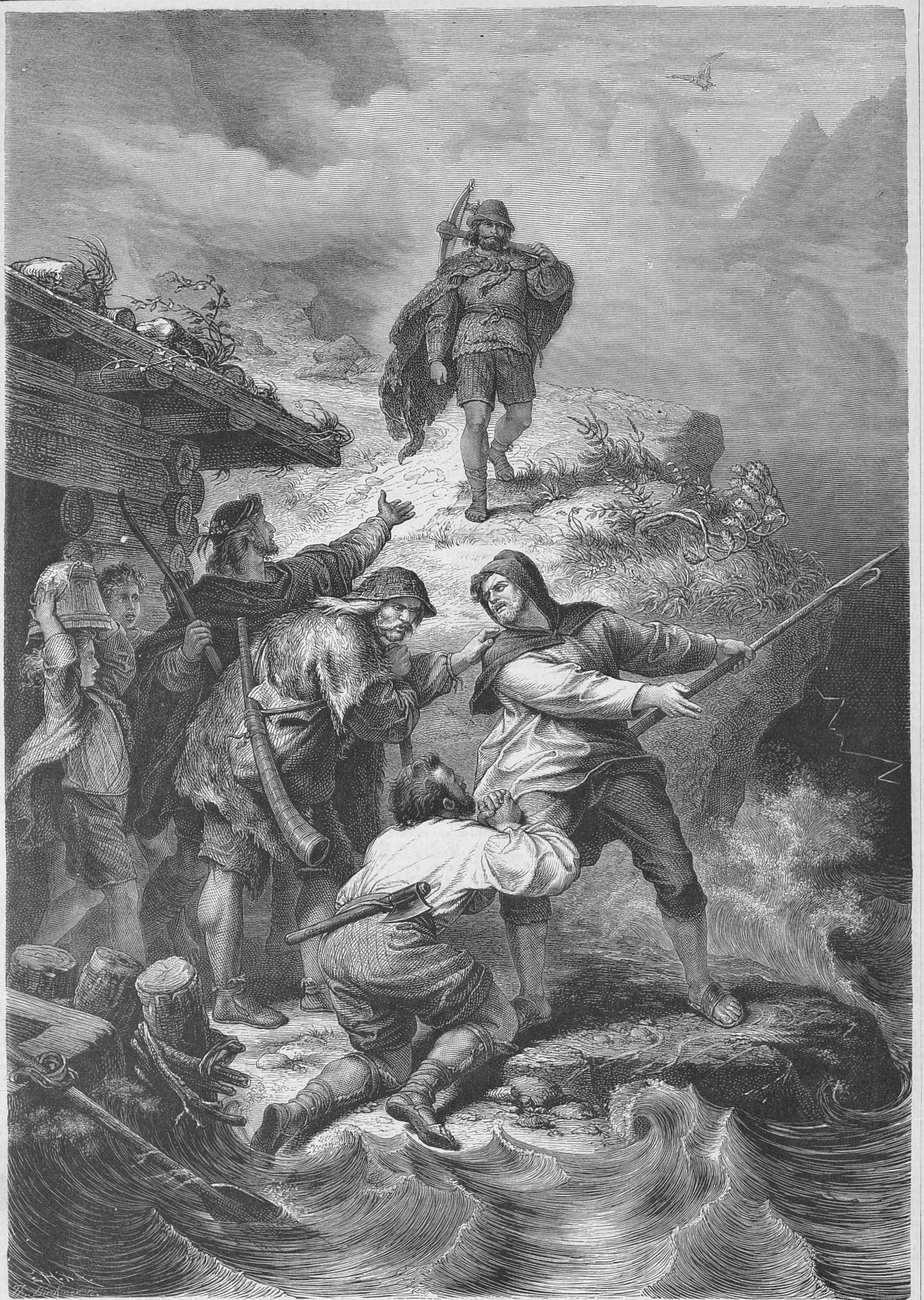
BURLESQUING MR. IRVING.—MR. ANSON'S BENEFIT.

SIR,—It is difficult to imagine a reason for the the indelicate caricature of an accomplished actor's recognised success, which Messrs. Lash Gordon and G. W. Anson submitted to the public on Saturday morning, under the title of *Hamlet à la mode*; or, *Shakespeare à la mode*. The authors styled their joint production, "an apropos absurdity." But if it be necessary or advisable to caricature Mr. Henry Irving's performance of Hamlet, it can scarcely claim to be apropos, though it might be considered an absurdity. Still there is a line to be drawn, even at dramatic absurdities, and it should be marked at such a combination of mediocrity and bad taste as that with which the authors of *Hamlet à la mode* hoped to amuse an intelligent public. The thing was the more to be regretted, following as it did so admirable an artistic sketch as the Camouflet of Mr. G. W. Anson, in *Une Tasse de Thé*, an assumption entirely worthy of the abilities of its executant. To take the principal character in a French comedieta and sustain it with a finish not often equalled and rarely excelled on the French stage, is an achievement which an English actor may well boast of. Versatility is an agreeable and profitable element in an actor's pretensions, and Mr. G. W. Anson has shown, to the enjoyment of the public and his own advantage, that he possesses it. To mimic Mr. Irving for the delectation of a few private friends is admissible. It is, however, a very different thing to caricature him in public and entice an audience to witness the affront. For Mr. Anson's "imitation" went far beyond the range of mimicry, and was, in fact, an exhibition of absurd extravagance, made almost intolerable by its exaggeration. Had this clever comedian chosen to imitate his accomplished brother in art, and contented himself with a mere touch of hyperbole, the assumption would have been equally creditable to the actor, and more enjoyable to his patrons. The jumble which served as a medium for so mistaken and inappropriate sketch had no redeeming feature in it. As a dramatic effort, it was beneath criticism. Beyond the utterance of a few fragile puns clumsily administered, the dialogue was unintelligible rubbish, while the construction showed an entire absence of situation. It ought not to be denied that the audience roared heartily at Mr. Anson's "portrait," seizing every contortion with avidity, and applauding lustily enough to warrant the authors in claiming for their conception and labours a "legitimate" success, though to the thoughtful fall of the curtain was a relief. We are inclined to believe, however, that when the apparently delighted ones compare the merits of Mr. Coghlan's charmingly written comedieta, *A Quiet Rubber*, so superbly acted by Mr. J. Hare and Mr. C. Kelly, two delineations sufficient in themselves to lift dramatic portraiture beyond the reach of contamination, with the flimsy production that had aroused for a few moments their hilarity, they would feel some tinge of remorse for having "assisted" at a burlesque which degraded the art that had previously enchanted them.

Y. B.

AT Liverpool, on Wednesday, Charles Marston was charged with being drunk and assaulting a market constable. It was stated that he had won £900 on the City and Suburban Handicap. He was fined 40s. and costs.

A LIFE POLICY-HOLDERS' PROTECTION ASSOCIATION has been started to meet a want long felt by the 1,750,000 persons whose lives are assured in existing offices. It is intended to keep a strict watch upon the positions of the different life assurance companies, in the interests of insurers.



SCENE FROM THE OPERA OF "WILLIAM TELL."

MUSIC.

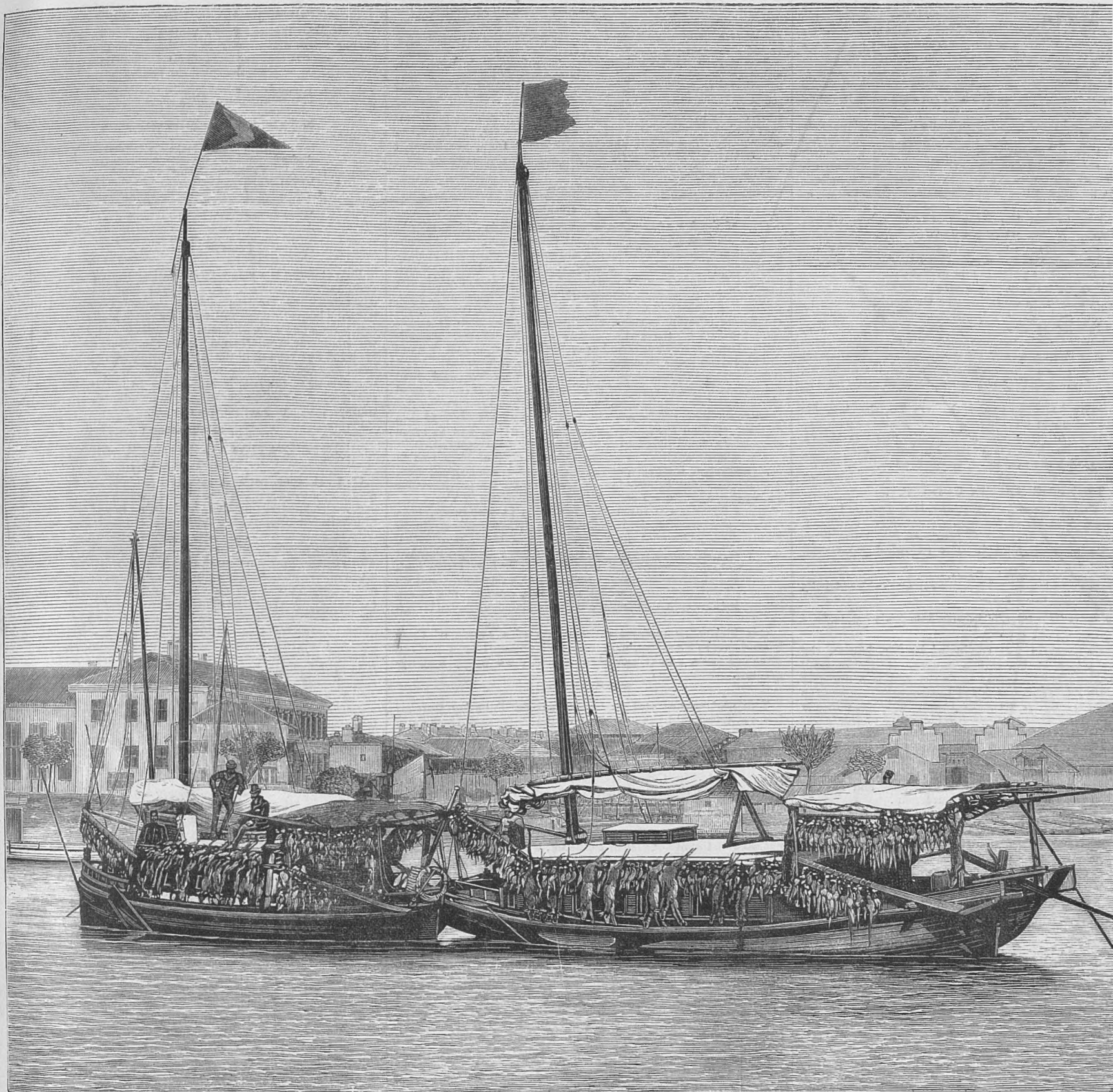
(All Music sent for review will be noticed within one month after its arrival.)

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

DURING the past week the programme of the Royal Italian Opera has chiefly consisted of repetitions, which have in some cases been announced with changes of cast, but have in most instances been performed with the casts already noticed. The recent treacherous weather has severely affected our foreign visitors, and both Mdle. Marimon and M. Maurel have been unable to appear when announced, owing to attacks of hoarseness. *Guillaume Tell* was repeated on Saturday last for the appearance of Mdle. Smeroschi, in the character of Matilda. She undertook the part at short notice, and without rehearsal (owing to the indisposition of Mdle. Bianchi), and, under the circumstances, was successful. The richness and power of her voice were apparent in the duet with Arnolfo (Signor Marini), and in the aria "Selva Opaca." Excepting on two occasions during her execution of the aria, her intonation was good, and she displayed abundant dramatic expression. It is to be regretted that her progress in the art of vocalisation is slow. Her voice has improved since she first made her appearance here three years back, and is of exceptionally fine quality. With careful and persevering study she might ere this have become a finished vocalist, but at present she is unable to execute scales, shakes, &c., in a satisfactory manner. Of course, these embellishments form only a small part of the art of vocalisation, but they are indispensable, and the soprano who cannot execute them properly may assume the functions, but cannot claim the rank of a prima donna. Of the other artists engaged in the performance it is unnecessary to speak, as their impersonations have already been noticed when the opera of *Guillaume Tell* was produced at the beginning of this month.

Faust was produced on Monday last, with the following cast:—Faust, M. Capoul; Valentino, Signor Cotogni; Mefistofele, Signor Bagagiolo; Wagner, Signor Raguer; Siebel, Madame Scalchi; Marta, Mdle. Sonino; and Margherita, Mdle. Smeroschi. There were several new features in this distribution of characters, and that which chiefly calls for remark is the impersonation of the title character by M. Capoul. The individual merits or demerits of M. Capoul may not be of sufficient importance to demand elaborate examination, but may nevertheless serve as texts for the exposition of artistic principles. It should not be forgotten that this gentleman is highly esteemed as an artist by his fellow countrymen, and is the most popular tenor in France. It may therefore be assumed that his methods of singing and acting are satisfactory to critical judges in Paris, and this consideration must not be lightly disregarded. It cannot be concealed that M. Capoul fails to give complete satisfaction to English connoisseurs, and it may be useful as well as interesting to inquire why it is that London gives a comparatively cold reception to a kind of art which meets with warm applause in Paris.

Falsetto singing, as exhibited by M. Capoul, is accepted and admired by French musicians and amateurs. In England this kind of singing has long ceased to be popular, and its frequent employment by M. Capoul has done much to prejudice his success at our Italian opera houses. Why so? By what canons of criticism can it be proved that falsetto singing should be condemned, as being inartistic? Before these questions are answered, it will be desirable to recall to memory the fact that during the first half of the present century, falsetto singing was popular in this country, and was practised by our greatest operatic tenors. At the same time it should be remem-



SPORT IN CHINA—(From Sketches by a Special Correspondent)

bered that at the period just referred to, our operatic singers were really "artists." For many years past we have been accustomed to confer that designation on vocalists who have had little claim to it, and who have been thrust into important operatic positions because they have possessed good voices, although unable to turn their natural gifts to proper advantage for want of sufficient instruction. This was not the case formerly. Singers had to go through a long course of study before they were allowed to venture on to the operatic stage; and although they might remain ignorant of the theory and grammar of music, they became—so far as the art of vocalisation was concerned—real artists. No artist ever equalled Rubini in the use of the falsetto. Since his death, twenty-three years back, and the subsequent retirement of Mario, we have been obliged to content ourselves with tenors who are unable to blend the chest voice with the falsetto, and whose transitions from the former to the latter are so abrupt and inartistic that a blind listener might suppose two singers were employed. Rubini, by assiduous study, became able to assimilate the quality of tone in his chest voice with that of his falsetto, and

so to blend the two registers that it was impossible to discover the "break," or rather the point of junction. His compass of voice extended to eighteen notes, all perfectly under his command, so that he could not merely vocalise, but declaim, with thrilling effect on high notes. Falsetto singing such as his would be acceptable now, but falsetto singing has become unpopular in England because it is no longer employed artistically. The falsetto C which M. Capoul sang in "Salve dimora," for instance, was of good quality, but was of so utterly different a character from the chest notes which came before and after it, that it might have been an obligato note by another singer; and this inartistic employment of the falsetto destroyed the illusion which might have been preserved had he contented himself with a less ambitious effort. It is only the most finished art which can render the falsetto acceptable. Its occasional employment may perhaps be excused, but on artistic grounds it must be condemned as unnatural and unnecessary. It is unnatural because it imparts a feminine character to the voice of the man who employs it, and, being untrue, is therefore inartistic.

It is unnecessary, because tenors are to be found who can sing in the chest voice as high as can reasonably be desired, and less gifted vocalists should content themselves with less exacting rôles. On these grounds, the objections taken by English connoisseurs to M. Capoul's falsetto singing appear to us to be justified.

The artificial tremolo—as intentionally introduced by M. Capoul—is popular on the French stage, but has ceased to be so with us. It was originally introduced by the great Rubini, when the decline of his vocal powers had commenced, and he could no longer sustain long holding notes firmly. By means of his consummate art, he contrived to turn this deficiency to profit, and that trembling of the voice which he could no longer avoid was made to appear a voluntary and novel mode of imparting pathetic expression. He has had numerous imitators, most of them involuntary copyists. The operas of Meyerbeer, Halevy, and Verdi are for the most part so fatiguing for tenors, and the shouting and screaming style of singing has in late years so completely supplanted the refined vocalisation of the earlier Italian school, that the majority of our operatic tenors have rapidly

injured their voices by over forcing, and have become unable to abstain from the tremolo which sapient advisers have recommended them to discontinue. There are some, however—and M. Capoul is one of these—who voluntarily introduce an artificial trembling of the voice, as an artistic embellishment. It must be admitted that in strongly pathetic situations it is quite natural that the voice of the singer should lose its firmness; and if he be so unsympathetic in disposition as to be unmoved in such situations, it may be desirable that he should counterfeit the emotion which he ought to feel, but does not. In such cases the instinct of the public enables them to distinguish the counterfeit from the sterling coinage of true art, and few tears are extracted by an obviously artificial trembling of the voice. M. Capoul is a representative French tenor, and not only introduces the tremolo in pathetic situations of strong dramatic interest—such as occur once or twice in an opera—but is perpetually trembling. As it is absurd to suppose that this kind of emotional display can be appropriate on all occasions, and as its repeated presentation must produce either a painful or an absurd effect, we coincide with those who condemn the introduction of the artificial tremolo.

"Dragging the time" is a defect to which M. Capoul, like the majority of operatic singers, is prone. Excellent effects are often obtained by a skilful employment of the *tempo rubato*—that is to say, by holding on to certain notes in a bar, and accelerating the others, so that the complete bar is relatively of the same duration as the others bars in the musical phrase. But there can be no defence for frequent and capricious stoppages, made solely for the sake of holding on to notes which the singer thinks will show his voice to advantage. Where the composer indicates a pause on a note, let the singer make what he can of the opportunity, but let him remember that when he stops the current and the balance of a musical passage by unduly prolonging certain notes for the sake of self-display, he thereby proves that he is not entitled to be called an "artist."

We have discussed these questions with no desire to depreciate M. Capoul, whose faults are those of the school to which he belongs; but we have endeavoured to justify the dislike with which that school is regarded by English musicians, and to explain the principles on which our criticism is founded. Respecting Gounod's *Faust* it would be difficult to say anything new. The performance of the opera on Monday last was not so good as many which have been witnessed at Covent Garden, but was well received by a crowded audience. Mlle. Smeroschi was nervous, and sang out of tune in her first scene; but recovered herself in the third act, and sang well in the garden scene with Faust. She is at present hardly equal to so onerous a rôle as that of Margherita, but might become so by earnest study. Madame Scalchi's singing, as Siebel, was as delightful as ever. Signor Cotogni was unusually good as Valentino, and Signor Baggiolo—suddenly called upon to act as substitute for M. Maurel—was an efficient, if not very brilliant Mefistofele. Mlle. Sonino made a successful début as Marta, and Signor Raguer was effective as Wagner. The choruses were well sung, the *mise en scène* was superb, and the orchestra, under the able direction of Signor Vianesi, were all that could be desired.

No other novelty has been produced. On Tuesday last *Les Huguenots* was repeated; on Thursday, *Don Pasquale*; on Friday, *Guillaume Tell*. To-night, *I Puritani* will be produced, and the popular Mlle. Albani will make her first appearance this season, as Elvira, with the new tenor, Gayarré, as Arturo.

THE RUBINSTEIN CONCERT.

The Crystal Palace concert of Saturday last was exclusively devoted to the compositions of the famous pianiste and composer, Anton Rubinstein, and in spite of increased prices the large concert-room was completely filled. The following programme was provided:—

1. Symphony in C major ("Ocean"), Op. 42.
2. Arioso and Duet (finale to second act of the opera "Die Maccabäer").
3. Pianoforte Concerto No. 2. (Op. 35).
4. Song, "Tragödie."
5. Pianoforte solos, "Nocturne," "Scherzo from No. 3 Sonata," and "Caprice."
6. Overture to "Dimitri Donskoi."

The pianoforte concerto was conducted by Mr. Manns, the other orchestral pieces by Rubinstein himself. The "Ocean" symphony was received with hearty applause, and is a masterly work. As it will be repeated to-day at the second concert of the New Philharmonic Society, we shall reserve detailed criticism until next week. The overture to *Dimitri Donskoi* ("Demetrius of the Don") was well played, and secured well-merited applause. The vocal selections, sung by Mlles. Friedlander and Anin, were unmelodious and gloomy. The pianoforte pieces served to show the astounding technical powers of Rubinstein, whose playing was absolutely marvellous. He was frequently and heartily cheered, and the concert was eminently successful.

SATURDAY PROMENADE CONCERTS.

At the Westminster Aquarium, on Saturday last, the first of M. Riviere's four Saturday evening Promenade Concerts was given, with a success which augurs well for the prosperity of the enterprise. Over 14,000 persons attended the concert, and the performances were enthusiastically applauded. M. Riviere's undiminished popularity was attested by the hearty reception which greeted him, and he justified it by his able conducting. The programme was well chosen. The vocal music was executed by the Aquarium choir, and by Madame Antoinette Sterling, Miss Cora Stuart, and Signor Foli. The instrumental music was performed by a powerful band of over seventy orchestral players, reinforced by the band of the Scots Fusiliers; and solo passages were well played by MM. Chavannes, Damare, and other Parisian artistes, expressly engaged for these concerts. To-night Madame Rose Hersee and other popular artistes will appear.

GOLFING at St. Andrew's Links during the past winter has been to a considerable extent suspended owing to the unprecedented severity of the weather, and the great quantity of water which had collected on the green. Several brave spirits, whom no difficulties would deter, essayed the task; but, practically, golfing was confined to rather prescribed limits. The water has now, however, been gradually drained off, in view of the approaching May meeting of the "Royal and Ancient."

THERE is a dispute as to the testamentary dispositions of the late Andrew Halliday. In 1865 he made a will, leaving all his property to his wife. Quite recently his brother returned from America, and induced the deceased to make a will in his favour, although, according to the widow, the deceased had been incapable of transacting business for the past two years. In her indignation she threatened to destroy his manuscripts. The matter came before Vice Chancellor Malins, and it was arranged that the manuscripts should be deposited in a bank pending the probate suit.

BRONCHITIS, COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, SHORTNESS OF BREATH, PHLEGM.—Two of Dr. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS give immediate relief. CAUTION—The genuine Dr. Locock's medicines have the name in the Government Stamp, and the Trade Mark ("Dr. Locock") on the label. Price, 1s. 12d., 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 11s., per box, of all Druggists. [ADVT.]

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES, and all other insects are destroyed by KEATING'S INSECT DESTROYING POWDER, which is quite harmless to domestic animals.—Sold in tins 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, St. Paul's Church-yard, London, and all Chemists (free by post 14 and 33 stamps). [ADVT.]

FAMOUS DANCERS II.—FANNY ELSLER.

Our space is too limited to deal at length with the career of the famous dancer whose portrait appears on another page, but a large number of our older playgoers will readily enough refresh their memories with regard to her immense popularity, and the features which rendered it a memorable thing in the history of the stage.

CASHMERE GOATS.

A witling once said the Cashmere shawls were just like deaf people because however one might try, one could never make them *here*. These famous and costly shawls have of late years lost their once remarkable popularity, and, except in France, where they still form a portion of nearly every bride's *trousseau*, and in French novels, wherein ladies of the *demi-monde* are almost always described in connection with *un vrai cashmere* and Turkish slippers, they are now at a discount. But our interest in the goats who furnish the material for these splendid shawls, and roam at will along the wind swept steppes of Central Asia remains undiminished. They are rarely met with on the south side of the summits, and will not live in the valleys or plains of the lower and warmer parts of India. The wool which grows next the skin, and under that celebrated fine hair, is coarser than that of the sheep, but dyes brilliantly, and is wonderfully durable. It is said with truth, that there is no tissue woven of any sort of material which is so strong, so beautiful in colour when dyed, or holds the dye so permanently, or is so difficult to be soiled or worn to shabbiness as a genuine shawl made of the hair of the cashmere goat of the Himalaya.

The skin of the goat appears to have been early used as an article of clothing, and the warrior hunters of pre-historic days appear to have converted it by a process of felling into a hard thick material, proof against the weather and the weapons of enemies. The war tunics of the Cimbri were of this material, and thus the luxury-loving, daintily-attired modern belle, and the hardy comfort scorning savage she has descended from, are brought closely together in illustration of the good old, if somewhat musty, saying, "Extremes Meet."

SPORT IN CHINA.

ONE of the few advantages which a residence in China affords to the exile from Europe is the splendid shooting which is to be obtained in many parts of the country, and more especially in the neighbourhood of Shanghai. During the great rebellion which ravaged the empire in the years 1857 to 1864, and of which the valley of the Yangtze was the centre, vast tracts of country, once the most populous in the world, were turned into desert, great cities were reduced to ruins, and the population literally swept from the face of the earth. It is in this country, towards repopulating which but little has as yet been done, that some of the best small game shooting in the world is to be found. Wild pig, deer, pheasants, woodcock, and innumerable wild fowl abound, and, though most of the European residents and a good many natives are or affect to be sportsmen, but little impression is made on their numbers. The best districts are situated at a distance of from 150 to 200 miles from Shanghai, and to reach them boats especially adapted to the purpose are employed.

These boats are built to accommodate parties of from two to four sportsmen, their servants, and a crew of seven or eight men, with the necessary kennels for dogs, and space for provisions for excursions, which often extend to a period of three weeks or a month. The delta of the Yangtze abounds in waterways, both natural and artificial, and the shooting is consequently to be obtained without any of the incumbrances of tents, packhorses, &c., which render the pursuit of sport in most thinly inhabited countries so cumbersome and expensive. The boat serves both as a means of conveyance and a first-class shooting-lodge, and we know few shooting-lodges where more real comfort, not to say luxury, is to be enjoyed than in a well-appointed Shanghai house-boat.

Our illustration represents the return of a couple of these house-boats to Shanghai, with the spoil obtained by a party of three guns after a three weeks' sojourn in these happy hunting-grounds.

THE performance at Hengler's Circus on Saturday morning last was honoured by the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Teck.

At the Petty Sessions at Beaconsfield on Monday, before Mr Bramley Moore (in the chair), Major Gakill, Mr. Blunt, and Canon Ford, Mr. Colam, secretary of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, applied for summonses against Frank Goodall, George Edrup, William Bartlett, and Henry Hewitson, huntsman and whips of Her Majesty's Stag-hounds, for cruelty to a hind. He stated that a hind named Truant was uncared and hunted as far as Burnham, where it took water in a pond. Two hounds were sent in after it, and upon ineffectually chasing it, biting it, and tearing its flesh, they became exhausted, and were called out, and others were sent in—altogether six hounds were engaged during an hour and a quarter. Eventually a strong savage hound was sent in and succeeded in drawing the hind under water, but not until it had mutilated the animal in its hind quarters, and had actually torn its skull open and laid its brain bare. Mr. Colam stated that he did not oppose hunting *per se*, but only appeared on account of an accident arising out of hunting, which every country gentleman would deprecate. He admitted that the primary object of the huntsman was to capture the hind at the first; but he contended that the hounds, being perfectly under control and command, should have been prevented lacerating the hind's body, even if they were used for capturing the animal, which was not necessary at all. There were mechanical contrivances which could have been made available for such purposes, even if boats were not procurable. Long ropes could have been used and a raft improvised, and particularly the animal could have been left to find its way home, as the first deer had done on the previous day. It was well known that the last plan is frequently adopted, and the animal is hunted next day, when it is stiff, and anxious enough to return to its stables. Whether any of the expedients alluded to were deemed too troublesome or not, and whether or not the huntsman found it a more ready way to use dogs, he would not say; but undoubtedly much cruelty had arisen on the occasion, and the sufferings of the poor animal for about an hour and a half from constant worry and terror could hardly be computed. The bench retired to deliberate, and after a long interval returned into court, when the chairman said they had given the case much consideration, and had determined not to issue summonses, on the ground that the hind was not a domestic animal. If the society were of a different opinion it would find opportunities to test their judgment. Mr. Colam reminded the bench that at their own request he had not addressed them on the question whether the animal was *fera natura* or a domestic creature, and he would like to do so in order to prove to them that this animal was of domestic nature. The chairman thought he ought not to allow that to be done in an *ex parte* application, and eventually Mr. Colam withdrew, stating that at all events he hoped there would be no repetition of the conduct complained of.

BOAR HUNTING.

WHEN the foxes desert their mountain solitudes and are driven by cold and hunger down into the plains where they go a hunting on their own account, as many a poor, half-starved hare knows to its sorrow, then the wild boar, unable to grub up the frost-bound earth in search of food, retires in sullen discontent to its stronghold, and is most fierce and dangerous. That is the time when the boar-seeking sportsman prepares for his work, waiting anxiously for a thaw, when the snow will begin to disappear, the earth grow softer, and the boars renouncing for a time their habit of turning day into night, will be abroad all through the four and twenty hours. Then he goes rejoicingly abroad, not as of old, "with javelin's point a churlish swine to gore," but armed with a weapon more deadly, and for the sportsman far more safe when the prey he pursues is at bay against some rock or tree. The savage brute is seen as in our artist's "picture of an angry, chaffing boar."

On his bow-back he hath a battle set
Of bristly pikes, that ever threat his foes;
His eyes like glow-worms shine when he doth fret;
His snout digs sepulchres where'er he goes;
Being mov'd, he strikes what'er is in his way,
And whom he strikes, his cruel tusks slay.

His brawny sides, with hairy bristles arm'd,
Are better proof than thy spear's point can enter;
His short, thick neck cannot be easily harm'd;
Being ireful, on the lion he will venture:
The thorny brambles and embracing bushes,
As fearful of him, part; thro' whom he rushes.

These lines the reader will remember as occurring in Shakespeare's *Venus and Adonis*, as do those which describe how, after a fight such as that our artist depicts, Venus seeks her love, and near the spot where "she spied the hunted boar:—"

Whose frothy mouth he painted all with red,
Like milk and blood being mingled both together,

She—

Madly hurries her she knows not whither,

Until—

Kennel'd in a brake she finds a hound,
And asks the weary cattif for his master;
And there another licking of his wound,
Gainst venom'd sores the only sovereign plaster;
And here she meets another sadly scowling,
To whom she speaks; and he replies with howling.

When he had ceas'd his ill-resounding noise,
Another flap-mouthed mourner, black and grim,
Again the welkin vollied out his voice;
Another and another answers him.
Shaking their scratch'd ears, bleeding as they go.

Boar stalking is a game fairly testing the patience, skill, and endurance of manhood. To get to the windward of the herd, and advance without creating an alarm is anxious work, and trudging in heavy boots through soft snow for many hours, is a joke which sorely tests one's cheerfulness. To follow the blood-track of a wounded boar in whatever direction the desperate animal may in his blind fury take until the hounds bring him to bay, is another trial; but only the boar hunter knows the full delight which succeeds when the boar is killed—the hounds re-coupled, flasks produced, pipes lit, and arrangements made for carrying home in triumph the dead boar's heavy carcass.

INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW AT AMSTERDAM.

OUR correspondent at Amsterdam sends in the following communication to accompany the drawing which appears on another page. "Amsterdam the legendary town of tulips and hyacinths has been holiday keeping, filling its streets with joyous crowds, gaily making their way towards the Frederiksplein to take part in the opening of the Great International Flower Show which figures in our artist's drawing. Space will not permit us to touch on the numerous and ingenious features of the programme, which have transformed the simple spectacle into a most useful gathering. A congress had been organised in connection with the Exhibition, wherein to discuss various questions of prime importance concerning agriculture. Most of the countries invited most cordially responded to the wishes of the Commission, and Flora from all climates arrived in profuse quantities for exhibition, from the tropical plants, the rich exotics of Java, to the precious mosses of the Polar circles, with all kinds of agreeable or useful vegetation to find a place in the gardens of the Exhibition, or the palace which they surround. The garden is splendidly laid out, and the exhibition admirably situated, whilst the classifications and the general arrangements, unique of their kind, reflect great credit on the commission. Prince Henry, brother of the King, and honorary President, opened the Exhibition with an admirable speech, previous to which, however, we had been already invited to several entertainments. On Monday week there was a reception at the Town Hall, when the worthy Burgomaster, Heer Den Tex, made a welcome speech to the invited guests. On the following Tuesday the principal inhabitants of Amsterdam gave an official reception at the hospitable club of the "Felix meritis." The Princes were also there. Classical music, concert, dancing, refreshment and a final supper, nothing was wanting to render the entertainment a success. Others await us, without taking into account the cordial and gracious welcome extended by the inhabitants to the numerous strangers at present in the town; for the old city on the Amstel intends to uphold its ancient reputation for cordial and inexhaustible hospitality."

WITH great regret we have to record the decease of Mr. John Blackstock, the well-known courser, who died at his residence, Hayton Castle, Cumberland, after a long illness, at the age of sixty-nine.

MR. G. W. ANSON'S benefit performance, on Saturday morning last, served to exhibit that clever comedian's versatility in a striking degree. He was an admirable Camoufflet in *Une Tasse de Thé* (played in the original), and it would not surprise us in the least to find him, à la Charles Mathews, playing that or a kindred French part, in Paris, to the perfect satisfaction of the Parisians. His ludicrous burlesque of Mr. Irving, in *Hamlet à la Mode*! wild, extravagant, and daring as it was, displayed certain Robsonian qualities which we should be glad to see exercised in a better piece. It provoked roars of laughter. Messrs. J. Hare's and C. Kelly's superb acting in *A Quiet Rubber*, and Miss Ellen Terry's Helen, in a scene from the *Hunchback*, with Mr. H. B. Conway (Modus), were the other notable features of an admirably varied programme.

Mammon was reproduced at the Gaiety on Wednesday morning last, and more than confirmed the good opinion we had conceived of the piece on the occasion of its first representation. Calls were again frequent and deserved. Mr. W. H. Vernon's powerful impersonation of the leading character, won him a multitude of new admirers; Mr. Grahame was again seen to advantage in a part worthier of his abilities than most of the characters which he has been called upon to enact at the Strand; the silky hypocrite, Parker, was admirably sketched by Mr. Chamberlayne, and Miss Fanny Hughes played an uphill part with excellent taste and judgment. It will say little for the enterprise of London managers, if *Mammon*, the best piece of the class we have seen for years, do not find a permanent home at one of the West-End theatres.

PUNCHESTOWN.

"MATCHLESS PUNCHESTOWN," as it is called in Ireland by those offensively insular Hibernians who have yet to experience the glories of Goodwood, was this year "up to the mark." Although "Argus" no longer delights us with his reminiscences of PuncHESTOWN, his successor, Mr. Cole, continues to chronicle his recollections of the hospitalities of the inimitable meeting in a manner that leaves us no alternative but to quote him, by way of an accompaniment to Mr. Sturgess's clever sketches, *vide* another page:—

"There was a greater crowd at King's Bridge Terminus than I had seen for two or three years, and a confusion and pressure at the ticket boxes that reminded me, though in a small degree, of the memorable visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The run to Sallins was quickly performed, and from thence to the course as quickly too. There was a suspicion of dust before we had gone half the distance, and as for heavy ground, you could have walked over most of the course without soiling your boots. The sun was bright; the atmosphere of rather too bracing a nature—in fact, it was bitterly cold—of that there could be no doubt; but we bore it bravely, and the ladies seemed rather to enjoy it. The panorama of PuncHESTOWN never looked grander, backed as it was by the snow-covered Wicklow Mountains, though I felt at the same time that distance lent enchantment to the view. The foreground of the landscape was in its usual apple-pie order; but Mr. Waters had had a bad quarter of an hour the previous afternoon, when the gale made a clean sweep of the marquees in the luncheon enclosure. The mishap was, however, speedily righted, and there to-day were the more or less snow-white tents of "the army," ready to dispense that profuse hospitality for which PuncHESTOWN is famous. The Inniskillings, the 3rd and the 7th Dragoon Guards, the Rifle Brigade, the 75th Regiment, &c., met all calls upon them—and the weather made them numerous and pressing—with promptness and regularity, and none went empty away. There is not much required at PuncHESTOWN now in the way of improvement, but still in the matter of minor details there is always something, and that something Lord Drogheda and his lieutenant are apt to catch. It may be such a trifle as a chair here, or an extra seat there; but trifles help to make up complete wholes, and the trifles have not been overlooked here. Mr. Waters's pride in the place is something touching. He likes to take the degenerate Saxon by the arm and show him, not the nakedness of the land, but all its wealth and store. He is too courteous and kind-hearted to say, 'Have you got anything like this in England?' but I know by the twinkle of his eye of what he is thinking as he bids me survey the course from the steps of the ladies' stand, take in the well-arranged enclosure, the business offices—yea, even inspect vice-regal kitchens and retiring rooms—and then leaves me speechless with admiration. He has in all this, as perhaps he well knows, your correspondent quite at his mercy. I am now, I regret to say, an ancient lover of PuncHESTOWN, and, even if there were faults to be found, or joints in the harness to be espied, I should never think of looking for them. PuncHESTOWN 'squared' me when, some twelve years ago or more, my poor friend 'Argus' shot me out of a car on the hillside, and bade me, as Mr. Waters did to-day, survey the swelling scene. It was not so much of a swelling scene then as it is now, but it sufficed. I came, saw, and was conquered, and have been a bond slave ever since. No, there is nothing like PuncHESTOWN, and to that declaration I set my hand and seal."

PRINCIPAL RACES PAST.

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19.

BENNINGTON STAKES of 50 sovs each, h ft, for three year olds; D.M. Count F. de Lagrange's br c Chamant by Mortemer out of Araucaria, 8st 7lb J. Goater 1
A PLATE of 200 sovs; Cesarewitch course; was won by Mr. H. Savile's b c Parchment by Parmesan out of Dooskin, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb (Hammond) beating (by four lengths) GCB, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb; Wild Tommy, 4 yrs, 9st 7lb and two others. 6 to 4 agst Parchment.

A PLATE of 100 sovs, for two year olds; the winner to be sold for 100 sovs; last half of R.M.; was won by Mr. Gerard's ch c Joachim by Paganini out of Hesione, 8st 10lb (F. Archer) beating (by a head) Gwendoline, 8st 7lb; Beadman, 8st 10lb, and three others. 2 to 1 agst Joachim.

THE NEWMARKET INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP of 30 sovs each h ft, with 200 added, and 100 to the second; A. F. Prince Soltkyoff's br c Tassel by The Duke out of Heiladrum by Chanticleer, 4 yrs, 6st 10lb Hopkins 1
Mr. C. Bush's Bonchurch, 3 yrs, 5st 7lb Lemaire 2
Mr. T. Jennings's Plaisante, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb W. Johnson 3
Also ran: Controversy, 6 yrs, 9st 2lb; Coomassie, 5 yrs, 9st 2lb; Lord Gowran, aged, 8st 5lb; Tartine, 5 yrs, 8st 2lb; Polly Perkins, 3 yrs 6st 11lb; Gloucester, 4 yrs, 6st 12lb; Polly Perkins, 3 yrs, 6st 11lb (inc 7lb extra); Mavis, 3 yrs, 6st 6lb.
9 to 2 agst Plaisante, 6 to 1 each agst Controversy and Polly Perkins, 100 to 15 agst Lord Gowran, 11 to 1 agst Tassel, 12 to 1 each agst Coomassie, Tartine, and Gloucester, and 100 to 8 agst Bonchurch. Won by three lengths, six between second and third. The favourite some distance off was fourth, and Gloucester was fifth.

A SELLING STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 100 added; D.M. was won by Lord Lonsdale's br f Julia Peacham by Julius out of Polly Peacham, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb (150 sovs) (F. Archer) by a length, a dead heat for second between St. Etienne, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb (150); Acrobat, 4 yrs, 8st 2lb. Two others ran. 6 to 4 on Julia Peacham. Winner bought in for 520 guineas.

A HANDICAP of 100 sovs, added to 10 sovs each; T.Y.C.; was won by General Peel's ch m Land's End by Trumpeter out of Faraway, 4 yrs 7st 10lb (Wainwright), beating (by a head) Carthusian, 4 yrs, 7st; Oxonian, aged, 8st 2lb; and Y. Symdmon, aged, 7st 1lb. Even on Oxonian, 11 to 4 agst Land's End, 5 to 1 agst Y. Symdmon, and 7 to 1 agst Carthusian. A length between second and third.

A PLATE of 100 sovs, added to 10 sovs each; R.M. was won by Mr. H. Sandford's cr c Brown Prince by Lexington out of Britannia by Flying Dutchman, 8st 10lb (Custance) beating (by half a length) Pirat, 8st 10lb and three others. 6 to 4 on Pirat, 5 to 2 agst Brown Prince.

FRIDAY.

The Second Year of the Eighteenth NEWMARKET BIENNIAL STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 100 added, for four year olds; the second received 10 per cent. on the stake, and the third 5; D.I. Lord Falmouth's b c Skylark by King Tom out of Wheat-ear, 8st 10lb F. Archer 1

Mr. J. H. Houldsworth's Coltness, 8st 10lb T. Osborne 2
Mr. H. Savile's Timballo, 8st 6lb J. Goater 3
6 to 5 agst Coltness, 6 to 4 agst Skylark, and 100 to 15 agst Timballo. Won in a canter by six lengths.

THE REFUSE TWO YEAR OLD PLATE of 100 sovs, added to 5 sovs each, last half of R.M. was won by Sir J. Astley's br f Little Fifi by Broomielaw out of Richmond Lass, 8st 11lb (£100) (F. Archer), beating (by a length) f by Fripponier—Sphinx, 8st 11lb (£100) and two others. 7 to 4 each agst Little Fifi and Narbo, and 100 to 30 agst the Sphinx filly. A head between second and third.

A WELTER HANDICAP SWEEPSTAKES of 10 sovs each, with 100 added; D.M. was won by Lord Bradford's br c Euxine by Lacydes out of Black Lily, 4 yrs, 8st 3lb (F. Archer), beating (by two lengths) Woodbridge, 3 yrs, 7st and four others. 6 to 4 agst Woodbridge, 4 to 1 agst Euxine.

A SELLING STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 100 added; winner to be sold for 100 sovs; last 5 fur. of D.M. was won by Count F. de Lagrange's br f Cratere by Gabier out of Cravache by Vermont, 2 yrs, 6st 7lb (Wooden), beating (by three quarters of a length) Julia Peacham, 4 yrs, 9st 8lb; Gwendoline, 2 yrs, 6st 7lb, and five others. 11 to 10 on Julia Peacham, 6 to 1 agst Sista, 7 to 1 agst Cratere, and 10 to 1 agst Mero. Three lengths between second and third. The winner was sold to Captain Macchell for 275 guineas.

A MAIDEN PLATE of 100 sovs, added to 10 sovs each, for two year olds; last half of R.M., was won by Mr. M. Dawson's b f Belle of Sutherland by Julius out of Miss Laura, 7st 13lb (£100) (F. Archer), beating (by a neck) Conquest, 8st 10lb (£300) and Maria Pia, 8st 6lb (£300). Even agst Conquest, 5 to 2 agst Belle of Sutherland, and 100 to 30 agst Maria Pia. Sold to the Duke of Hamilton for 125 guineas.

A SWEEPSTAKES of 10 sovs each with 100 added; Brethly Stakes course, was won by Captain Macchell's ch c Farnese by Parmesan out of Lady Coventry, 4 yrs, 8st 12lb (£500) (F. Archer), beating (by a length), Breechloader, 5 yrs, 9st 2lb (£500), and Muguet, 3 yrs, 6st 13lb (£200). 5

to 4 agst Farnese, and 11 to 8 agst Breechloader. Three-parts of a length between the second and third.

THE CLARET STAKES of 200 sovs each, h ft, for four year olds; D.I.; was won by Lord Falmouth's b c Skylark by King Tom out of Wheat-ear 8st 10lb (F. Archer), beating (by four lengths) Twine the Plaiden, 8st 5lb. 6 to 5 on Skylark.

EPSOM SPRING MEETING.

TUESDAY.

The TRIAL STAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 100 added; about 1 mile; was won by Sir G. Chetwynd's ch c Hellenist, by Toxophilite—La Belle Helene, 4 yrs, 8st 12lb (£200) (Chesterman), beating by a length and a half, Mr. Noel's b c Lord Byron, 3 yrs, 6st 6lb (Hopkins), Lord Anglesey's br c Grey Friar, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb (Morbey), and seven others. Betting: 5 to 2 agst Farnese, 100 to 30 agst Grey Friar, 4 to 1 agst Hellenist, and 10 to 1 "bar three." The winner was bought in for 470 guineas.

MAIDEN PLATE of 100 sovs, for two-year-olds; about half a mile. Lord Lonsdale's b f Birdie, by Macaroni—Molly Carew, 8st 7lb F. Archer 1

Mr. Bush's br f Bird-in-the-Hand, 8st 7lb Constable 2
Lord Kesteven's br f Bravissima, 8st 7lb F. Webb 3
Also ran: Priscillian, 8st 10lb; f by Blair Athol—Ellermire, 8st 7lb; Brava, 8st 7lb; Sister Edith, 8st 7lb; c by Ethus—Villegiatura, 8st 10lb; Garter King, 8st 10lb; Quicksilver, 8st 7lb; Nightmare, 8st 7lb; King Sheppard, 8st 10lb; Lizzie, 8st 7lb; Lady Catty, 8st 7lb.

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Quicksilver, 9 to 2 each agst Priscillian and Birdie, 7 to 1 agst Bravissima, 10 to 1 agst Brava, and 100 to 8 agst any other. Won in a canter by four lengths; a length between second and third. Lady Catty was fourth.

THE CITY AND SUBURBAN HANDICAP of 15 sovs each, 10 ft, with 200 added; second received 50 sovs; winners extra; about one mile and a quarter. 127 subs, 40 of whom paid 5 sovs each.

Mr. T. Gee's Julius Cesar, by St. Albans—Julie, 4 yrs, 7st 9lb (car 7st 10lb) F. Archer 1
Lord Rosebery's b c Touchet, by Lord Lyon—Lady Audley, 3 yrs 6st Hopkins 2

Mr. G. Lambert's ch h Balbriggan, by Solon—Christmas Pie, 5 yrs, 6st 7lb Morgan 3
Lord Hartington's Chaplet, 5 yrs, 7st 13lb H. Jeffery 3
Lord Rosebery's The Snail, aged, 7st 11lb Constable 0
Lord Lonsdale's Hesper, 4 yrs, 7st 10lb T. Chaloner 0
Mr. H. Bird's The Ghost, 5 yrs, 7st 7lb (car 7st 8lb) Glover 0
Mr. Alexander Baltazzi's John Day, 4 yrs, 7st 6lb Morbey 0
Mr. W. S. Mitchell-Innes's Saint Leger, 5 yrs, 7st 5lb Dodge 0
Prince Soltkyoff's Tassel, 4 yrs, 7st 4lb (inc. 5lb ex.) Rossiter 0
Mr. E. Potter's Newport, 4 yrs, 7st 2lb (inc. 5lb ex.) F. Jeffery 0
Sir G. Chetwynd's Chypre, 5 yrs, 7st 2lb Chesterman 0
Mr. W. S. Cartwright's Volturmo, 5 yrs, 6st 13lb Cutler 0
Mr. T. Brown's Bondsman, 4 yrs, 6st 12lb Luke 0
Mr. C. Rayner, jun.'s Warren Hastings, 3 yrs, 6st 10lb Luey 0
Lord Rosebery's Kosbach, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb Harding 0
Mr. Gomm's Warrior, 3 yrs, 6st 6lb Watts 0
Lord Zetland's Margarita, 4 yrs, 6st 5lb Tomlinson 0
Mr. A. Baltazzi's ch c Buccaneer—Vollera, 3 yrs, 6st 3lb Lemaire 0
Major Stapleton's Sign Manual, 3 yrs, 5st 13lb W. Macdonald 0
Mr. C. Bush's Bonchurch, 3 yrs, 5st 13lb Weedon 0
Mr. J. Sone's Corsair, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb (inc. 5lb ex.) J. Morrell 0
Mr. R. L'Anson, jun.'s Doctor Gully, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb Beech 0
Mr. C. J. Langlands' Don Carlos, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb Howey 0
Sir W. Milner's The Cheetah, 3 yrs, 5st 10lb Heather 0
Duke of Montrose's James Pigg, 3 yrs, 5st 9lb Mills 0
Mr. G. Payne's Cartridge, 3 yrs, 5st 7lb Gallon 0
Mr. F. Harding's Chesterfield, 3 yrs, 5st 7lb Lane 0

Betting: 100 to 15 agst Touchet, 15 to 2 agst Balbriggan, 8 to 1 agst Julius Cesar, 100 to 12 agst Chaplet, 12 to 1 agst Hesper, 13 to 1 agst The Ghost, 14 to 1 each agst Bondsman and Sign Manual, 20 to 1 agst Vollera colt, 25 to 1 each agst Tassel, Warrior, John Day, Chypre, and Saint Leger, 33 to 1 agst Margarita, 40 to 1 agst Don Carlos, 50 to 1 each agst Volturmo and Cartridge, 66 to 1 agst Newport, 100 to 15 each agst Rosbach and Corsair, and 1,000 to 5 each agst James Pigg and Dr. Gully. Won in a canter by six lengths; three-quarters of a length separated Touchet from Balbriggan, who passed The Snail on the post, the last-named finishing fourth in front of Hesper, John Day, The Ghost, Cartridge, Chypre, Saint Leger, Warrior, Rosbach, and Cheetah, who finished as nearly as possible in the order the names are written, the last lot being the Vollera colt, James Pigg, Tassel, Dr. Gully, and Warren Hastings. Value of the stakes, £1,360.

THE DURDANS STAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 100 added; winner to be sold for £200. About 5 fur.

Mr. F. Davis's br c Paramatta, by Victorious—Adelaide, 5 yrs, 9st 9lb Constable 1

Mr. R. Peck's br f Policy, 4 yrs, 9st 4lb F. Webb 1
Mr. Padwick's ch f Modesty, 2 yrs, 6st 2lb Weedon 4
Also ran: Catella, 2 yrs, 6st 2lb; Lord George, 3 yrs, 8st 7lb; c by Outfit—Limeflower, 2 yrs, 6st 3lb; f by Flash-in-the-Pan—Yule Cake, 2 yrs, 6st 2lb; Cecropia, 3 yrs, 8st 4lb; Bras de Fer, aged, 9st 6lb; Scottie, 2 yrs, 6st 2lb; British Beauty, 3 yrs, 8st 4lb; Granada, 3 yrs, 8st 4lb; Baldacchino, 3 yrs, 8st 7lb.

Betting: 100 to 30 agst Paramatta, 4 to 1 agst Modesty, 8 to 1 each agst Bras de Fer, Policy, and Granada, 100 to 12 agst Cecropia, and 10 to 1 agst British Beauty. Won by three lengths; Modesty, ridden out, caught Policy, who had been running second all the way up the straight, on the post and tied for second. Granada was a bad fourth. The winner was sold to Colonel Forester for 370gs.

THE WELTER HANDICAP of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 200 added, about 6 furlongs, was won by Lord St. Vincent's br c Edward the Third, by Knight of the Garter—Memento, 4 yrs, 7st 9lb (car 7st 10lb) (H. Jeffery), beat (by a head) Mr. Heneage's br c Baumber, 4 yrs, 7st 10lb (J. Macdonald), and Lord Exeter's b h Vil, 6 yrs, 8st 5lb (Luke). Three lengths between second and third. Also ran: Lord Lincoln, 4 yrs, 8st 7lb; Leveret, 5 yrs, 8st 4lb; Killiecrankie, 5 yrs, 8st (car 8st 1lb); Lily Hawthorn, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb; Nonsense, 3 yrs, 7st; Loafer, 3 yrs, 7st. Betting: 3 to 1 agst Lord Lincoln, 100 to 30 each agst Baumber and Killiecrankie, 5 to 1 agst Leveret, and 10 to 1 agst Edward the Third. Leveret broke a blood-vessel, and was pulled up.

THE WESTMINSTER STAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 200 added, for two year olds; second received 50 sovs; about 5 fur. 47 subs.

Mr. R. Peck's b f Grace, by Scottish Chief—Virtue, 8st 7lb F. Webb 1
Lord Lonsdale's b f Birdie, 8st 10lb F. Archer 2
Mr. Pulteney's Precosia, 8st 11lb (inc 3lb ex.) H. Jeffery 3
Lord Rosebery's Kebbuck, 8st 10lb Constable 0
Captain W. H. Cooper's c by Macaroni—Gloire de Dijon, 8st 10lb A. North 0

Mr. Masque's Fernando, 8st 10lb Morris 0
Mr. F. Davis's Hudibras, 9st 3lb (inc 7lb ex.) Cannon 0
Mr. Joseph Dawson's The Captain, 8st 10lb C. Wood 0
Mr. C. J. Langlands's Mainchance, 8st 10lb W. Grey 0
Mr. Padwick's Ambuscade, 8st 7lb Wyatt 0

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Hudibras, 7 to 2 agst Birdie, 5 to 1 agst Precosia, 6 to 1 agst Grace, 7 to 1 agst Ambuscade, 12 to 1 agst Kebbuck, and 100 to 7 agst The Captain. Won easily by three lengths; same between second and third. Captain was fourth, Ambuscade next, then Hudibras, with Mainchance and Fernando last.

THE STAMFORD PLATE (Handicap) of 100 sovs, about 5 fur, was won by Mr. Phillip's br c Juan, by King John—Merry Wing, 3 yrs, 6st 10lb (Morgan); beating (by two lengths) Lord St. Vincent's br c Edward the Third, 4 yrs, 6st 13lb (inc 7lb ex) (Chesterman); Mr. E. J. Tanner's b h Mediator, aged, 7st 5lb (J. Jarvis); and twelve others. Three-quarters of a length between second and third.

WEDNESDAY.

THE GREAT SURREY HANDICAP of 15 sovs each, 5 ft, with 200 added; the second received 50 sovs. About five furlongs.

Mr. J. Bate's br c Sutherland, by Oxford or the Duke—Miss Fanny, 4 yrs, 6st 10lb Morgan 1
Lord Hartington's Belphebe, 3 yrs, 6st 5lb F. Jeffery 2
Mr. Baltazzi's Ceruleus, 5 yrs, 9st 3lb (inc 7lb ex.) Maidment 3
Also ran: Rosinante, 4 yrs, 7st 12; La Sautouse, 5 yrs, 7st 10lb; Chevron, 3 yrs, 7st 9lb; Medora, 4 yrs, 7st 7lb; Grandee, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb; Queen's Own, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb; Cinderella, 3 yrs, 6st; Lord George, 3 yrs, 6st; Saltier, 3 yrs, 6st 6lb.

Betting: 9 to 2 each agst La Sautouse and Sutherland, 6 to 1 agst Grandee, 100 to 15 each agst Ceruleus and Chevron, and 10 to 1 each agst Rosinante and Belphebe. Won in a canter by three lengths, Belphebe beating Ceruleus, who was eased opposite the stand, by the same. La Sautouse was fourth, Lord George fifth, Cinderella sixth, Grandee next. Chevron walked.

THE BEAUFORT STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 100 added, for two-year-olds; the winner to be sold for 100 sovs; about half a mile. 10 subs.

Lord Lonsdale's b f Cratere, by Galier—Cracachon, 8st 7lb F. Archer 1
Lord Hartington's Saga, 8st 7lb H. Jeffery 2
Mr. J. Barnard's Belgravia, 8st 7lb Wyatt 3
Also ran: Miss Gladstone, 8st 7lb; f by Victorious—Chilham, 8st 7lb; Bright Eyes, 8st 7lb; Garter King, 8st 10lb; Scottie, 8st 7lb; c by Outfit—Limeflower, 8st 10lb.

Betting: 11 to 1 agst Cratere, 4 to 1 agst Chilham filly, 100 to 15 agst Belgravia, and 4 to 1 agst Saga. Won in a canter by three lengths, Saga beating Belgravia by a head. The winner was bought in for 500gs, and Lord Hartington claimed Belgravia for £150.

THE PALL MALL STAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 100 added. About five furlongs. 16 subs.

Mr. Griffiths' br c Saint Moritz, by Lord Lyon—Edith, 4 yrs, 7st 4lb Morgan 1
Lord Lonsdale's Julia Peacham, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb F. Archer 2
Lord Jenkins's Killiecrankie, 5 yrs, 8st Constable 3
Also ran: The Rabbi, 4 yrs, 8st 10lb; Baumber, 4 yrs, 8st 6lb (car 8st 9lb); Farnsfield, 6 yrs, 8st 6lb; Bras de Fer, aged, 8st 2lb; Scrape, 3 yrs, 7st 10lb; Mirobolante, 3 yrs, 7st 4lb; Popkins, 3 yrs, 6st 13lb; Forty Winks, 3 yrs, 6st 10lb; Neva, 3 yrs, 6st 10lb.

Betting: 5 to 2 each agst Baumber and Julia Peacham, 7 to 1 agst Saint Moritz, 8 to 1 each agst Farnsfield, Killiecrankie, Mirobolante, and Popkins, and 100 to 8 agst Forty Winks. Won by a neck; a bad third. The GREAT METROPOLITAN STAKES of 25 sovs each, 15 ft, and only 5, &c., with 200 added; the second received 50 sovs; winners extra. About two miles and a quarter. 63 subs, 27 of whom declared forfeit.

Mr. Baltazzi's John Day, by John Davis—Breakwater, 4 yrs, 7st 5lb Morbey 1

Mr. Crawford's Norwich, 3 yrs, 5st 7lb Gallon 2
Mr. Savile's Lilian, aged, 7st 12lb F. Archer 3
Mr. Jenkins's Gloucester, 4 yrs, 7st Weedon 0
Captain D. Lane's Lord Berners, 5 yrs, 6st 10lb (inc. 5lb ex.) E. Scott 0
Mr. Evans's Iron Duke, 3 yrs, 5st 7lb Heather 0

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Lilian, 7 to 2 agst John Day, 4 to 1 agst Norwich, and 100 to 8 agst each of the others (offered). Won by two lengths; Lilian finished a bad third, fifty yards in advance of Iron Duke and Gloucester, who were side by side, and Lord Berners was beaten as far from them.

THE RAILWAY WELTER STAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 100 sovs added, about five furlongs, was won by Mr. W. Brain's b f Granada, by Cecrops—Bounce 3 yrs, 8st 5lb (Wyatt), beating (by two lengths) Mediator, aged, 8st (C. Archer), Lockhart, 4 yrs, 9st 12lb (Chaloner), and five others. 100 to 30 agst Granada, 5 to 1 agst Mediator, Lass, and Kedgerce. The winner was sold to Mr. Cornwall for 275gs.

THE HYDE-PARK PLATE of 500 sovs, for two-year-olds; winners extra. About half a mile.

Mr. R. Peck's b f La Merveille, by Blair Athol—Cauldron, 8st 7lb (car 8st 9lb) F. Webb 1
Mr. Beddington's gf Queen of Pearls, 8st 7lb Cannon 2
Mr. Ellerton's br f Ersilia, 8st 7lb Wyatt 3
Also ran: Fasting Girl, 8st 12lb (5lb ex.); Twm-bar-lwm, 8st 10lb; Peter Blue, 8st 10lb; Brother to Grandee, 8st 10lb; Lady Catty, 8st 7lb; Glasgow, 8st 10lb; f by Stentor—St. Etheldreda, 8st 7lb; Folle Avoine, 8st 7lb; Edith Plantagenet, 8st 7lb; Birdie (sister to Polly Perkins), 8st 7lb; Echo, 8st 7lb; c by Morizet—Mischief, 8st 10lb; f by Macaroni—Alberta, 8st 7lb; Dalgarno, 8st 10lb.

Betting: 100 to 30 each agst La Merveille and Queen of Pearls, 6 to 1 each agst Ersilia and Birdie, 10 to 1 agst Dalgarno, and 100 to 8 each agst Fasting Girl and Glasgow. Won cleverly by three-quarters of a length.

THE PRINCE OF WALES STAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 200 added; the second to receive 50 sovs. About one mile. 41 subs.

Mr. G. Lambert's ch g Balbriggan, by Solon—Christmas Pie, 5 yrs, 7st 2lb Morgan 1
Lord Zetland's Margarita, 4 yrs, 7st 1lb Tomlinson 2
Lord Astley's Sailor, 4 yrs, 7st 2lb Wycherley 3
Also ran: Atholstone, 3 yrs, 6st 6lb; Corsair (inc 7lb ex); 3 yrs, 6st 4lb; b c by Jove—Spec., 3 yrs, 5st 11lb.

Betting: 7 to 4 on Balbriggan, 6 to 1 agst Atholstone, and 10 to 1 agst Sailor. Won by three-quarters of a length; two lengths between second and third.

HER MAJESTY'S PLATE of 200gs for three-year-olds and upwards; weight for age. About two miles and a quarter.

Mr. F. Grettton's b c Kingsclere, by Lord Clifden—Queen Bee, by King Tom, 3 yrs, 7st 8lb Morgan 1
Lord Rosebery's Lauzun, 4 yrs, 9st 7lb Constable 2
Mr. Savile's Parchment, by Parmesan—Dooskin, 3 yrs, 8st 7lb C. Archer 3
Also ran: New Holland, 5 yrs, 10st 1lb; Hellenist, 4 yrs, 9st 7lb; Laird of Glenorchy, 4 yrs, 9st 7lb; Maybell, 3 yrs, 8st 8lb.

Betting: 6 to 4 agst Parchment, 3 to 1 agst New Holland, 100 to 30 agst Hellenist, and 10 to 1 agst any other. Won easily by six lengths; bad third.

PARIS SPRING MEETING.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22.

PRIX DE MONTRETOU of 4 sovs each, h ft, with 120 added; winner to be sold for £200; second received half the entries. One mile and a half. 17 subs.

Mr. J. Pratt's b c Ernest, by Monitor—Equivoque, 3 yrs, 7st 12lb (£200) Howman 1

Count de Nicolay's ch f Perdrix, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb (£100) Tunaley 2
Count de Nertheux's b c Le Bignon, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb (£100) Ashman 3
Also ran: Soubrette, 4 yrs, 9st 3lb (£200); Merueilleuse, 4 yrs, 8st 10lb (£100); L'oparque, 3 yrs, 7st 5lb (£100); Malabar, 3 yrs, 7st 5lb (£100); Le Duc, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb (£100); Equateur, 3 yrs, 7st 12lb (£200); Faucon, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb (£100); Decisio, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb (£100); Albigeoise, 3 yrs, 7st 12lb (£100); La Mode, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb (£100); Nacelle, 3 yrs, 7st 10lb (£100); Belle jardiniere, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb (£100); Ca tagnette, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb (£200).

Betting: 3 to 1 agst Ernest, 6 to 1 each agst Merueilleuse and Le Duc, 8 to 1 agst Albigeoise, 10 to 1 agst Castagnette, and 12 to 1 each agst Faucon and La Mode. Won by a head; four lengths between second and third.

PRIX DES ACACIAS of 6 sovs each, with 400 added, for three-year-olds not entered in the French Oaks, Derby, and Produce Stakes; second received 80 sovs. One mile and a half.

Martinvast Stud's b c Systeme, by Bas Bleu—Sentence, 8st 11lb Mills 1
Count de Lagrange's b c Caen, 8st 11lb Carver 2
M. Lupin's br f Brigitte, 8st 8lb Hudson 3
Marquis de Caumont's Valerien, 8st 11lb Rolfe 4
Also ran: Viroflay, 8st 11lb; Le Balafre, 8st 11lb; D'Artagnan, 8st 11lb; Echanson, 8st 11lb; Militaire, 8st 11lb.

Betting: Even on Caen, 6 to 1 agst D'Artagnan, 7 to 1 agst Systeme, and 10 to 1 agst any other. Won by a head; Brigitte being beaten six lengths from Caen.

PRIX DE SEVRES of 4 sovs each, with 120 added, for three-year-old colts, second received half the entries, eight furlongs and a half, was won by Count de Lagrange's ch c Pagnotte, by Mortemer—Nita, 8st 11lb (Carver), beating (by a neck) Baron de Rothschild's b c Doublet, 8st 11lb (Storr), M. Fould's b c Bras d'Acier, 8st 11lb (Chaloner), and seven others, 5 to 2 agst Bras d'Acier, 4 to 1 agst Doublet, 5 to 1 agst Oiseleur, and 6 to 1 agst Pagnotte; a head between second and third.

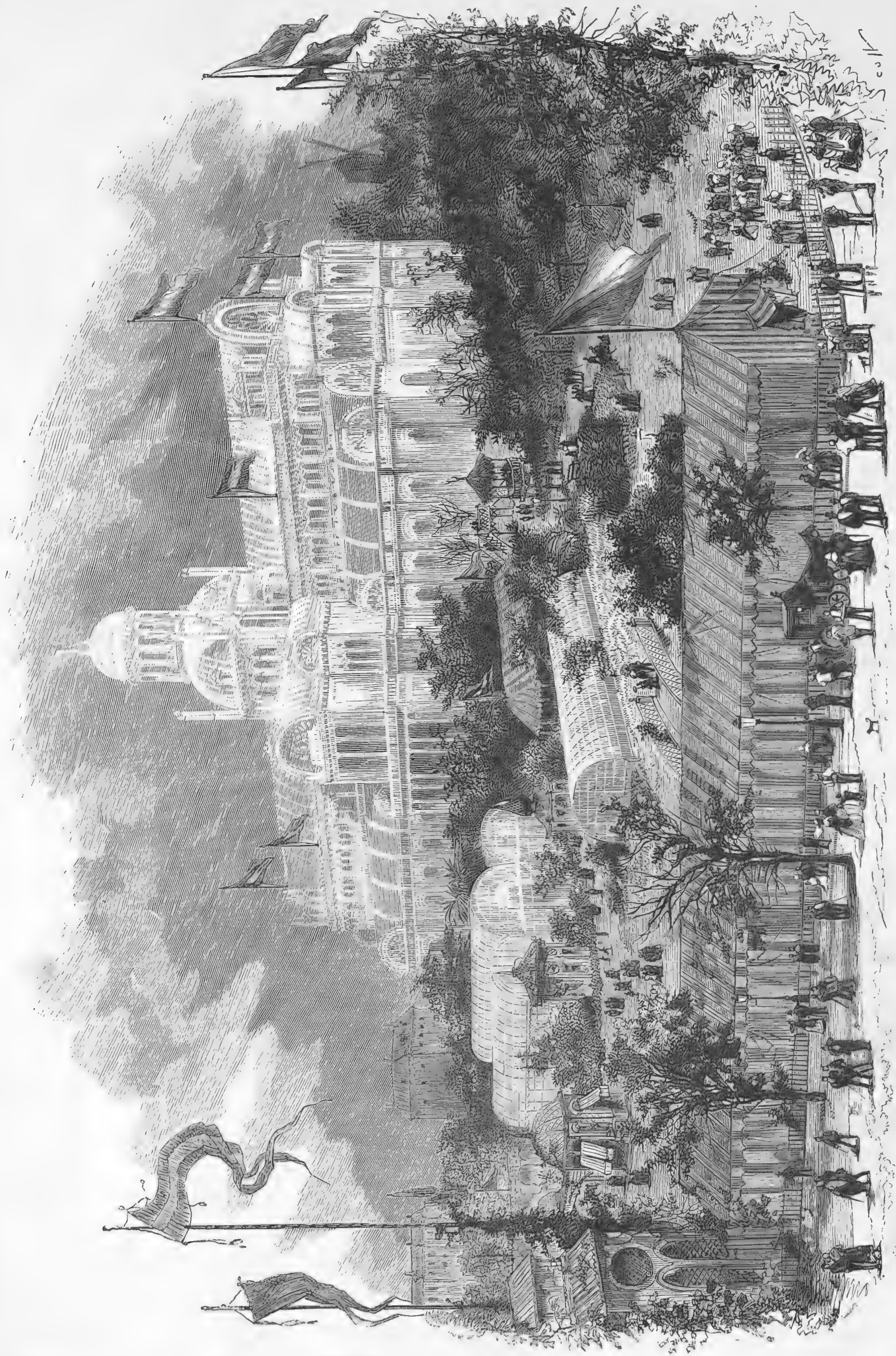
PRIX RIEUSSEC (Handicap) of 8 sovs each, 4ft, with 400 added, for four year olds and upwards; second received 40 sovs; two miles and a half. Prince d'Arenberg's br c Espoir, by Brindisi—Magenta, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb Carratt 1

M. Delamarre's b f Filoselle, 4 yrs, 9st 8lb Carver 2
Count Henri's b c Vallon, 4 yrs, 8st 11lb Storr 3
Also ran: Fideline, 6 yrs, 9st 6lb; Moulin, 4 yrs, 9st 11lb; Paradoxe, 5 yrs, 9st; La Boulaie, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb; Chapalain, 4 yrs, 8st.

Betting: 3 to 1 agst Moulin, 4 to 1 agst Filoselle, 6 to 1 agst Espoir, 8 to 1 agst Fideline, 10 to 1 agst Paradoxe, and 12 to 1 agst any other. Won by a length; five lengths between second and third.

PRIX VAUBLANC of 2 sovs each, with 240 added; winner to be sold for 1,000 sovs; weight for age; second received half the entries; two miles and a quarter.

Prince d'Arenberg's b c Austral, by Le Mandarin—Aurore, 3 yrs, 8st 2lb



THE GREAT FLOWER SHOW AT AMSTERDAM.

OUR CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

"THE SCUTTLED SHIP."

It is an ancient novelist,
He button-holed me,
By thy long five acts and prologue dull,
Old man, what aileth thee?
He holds me by the button-hole,
"There was a ship," quoth he.



"The Scuttled Ship."

Within a stone's throw from the Strand
The merry world walks free.
Avaunt, old man, unclasp thy hand,
Thy tale is more than I could stand.
"There was a ship," quoth he.

He holds me with his skinny claw,
His eyes begin to glisten.
He holds me by the button-hole,
I cannot choose but listen.
Oh! would that the tedious tale were mine
And the button-hole were his'n!

Hard by the lively barmaid serves
Full many a cheering nip,
How willingly would I stand treat
Did he but loose his grip!
Come on, I say, let's have a drink!
Quoth he, "There was a ship—"

So you see there was no help for me. I was in for it. I had to follow the fortunes of that ill-fated vessel and its crew to the bitter end. If anything, however, I think the Ancient Mariner was a deal more direct in his narrative than the ancient novelist. The former worthy stuck to his ship up to the last moment, and did not let his incidents stray very far away from her. But the *Scuttled Ship* involved almost enough preliminary and subsequent



Mr. G. W. Anson as "Antony and Cleopatra"

happy doubt regarding the efficiency of our governors general in those parts. During act the Second the difficulties of scuttling a merchant vessel were elaborately impressed upon me. It requires much more management to bore a hole in a ship's side without attracting the observation of the official chaplain than I should have imagined. Only the wild festivities of an entire crew, including the man at the wheel, can furnish noise enough to muffle the sound of the perforation. At this period I would willingly have allowed myself to be called a pseudonymuncle had I been left at liberty to go on my way believing that the final dénouement had been accomplished. The ship was scuttled, and there ought to have been an end of it. But no. He holds me with his glittering eye—"There was a ship," quoth he. It was in vain to argue that the ship having been disposed of, it might be allowed to rest in peace, because a lonely island in the tropics had to be produced, and while it was in preparation it became necessary to revert to the purely mercantile scenes in the original ship-broking office of the



Above the Stage

prologue. The tropical island once gained, however, I felt a temporary relief. It was Robinson Crusoe's familiar island home out of the Christmas pantomime. After waiting patiently for an hour or so, in the almost sure and certain hope of seeing Man Friday and the goat and the dog and the parrot appear upon the scene, to relieve the dead monotony of high class dialogue by a few of their playful antics, a sigh of grievous disappointment was forced from me, for the scene incontinently changed. There

Below the Stage.
That corpse!!

began a conflict of diverse scenic and psychological elements that left me palsied with wonder, awe, and eventually with weariness. Some of the personages in this desert mirage have remained upon my retina. There was the Olympic deity, Henry Neville, in whom were combined physical, mental, and religious qualifications only to be appreciated by the true gods. There were marine desperadoes with blood-stained consciences and crime-hardened souls, every mother's son of whom, however, had deep down in his heart of hearts a principle of true religion, which impelled him to repent, to slow music, before retribution has quite overtaken him. There was a beautiful heroine who preserved her modesty under circumstances not a little trying. My impressions of anything further are vague and mixed. Beyond being quite certain that the doomed ship sank to the lively melody of the hornpipe, and that, like unto Nero fiddling whilst Rome was a-flame, the diabolical scuttlers danced and sang while the ship was sinking, I cannot draw upon my memory for the balance of wondrous in-

cidents comprised in this "romance of love, adventure, crime, and retribution."

Day performances are becoming more and more fashionable. And for those who have an hour or two to spare in the afternoon it is a profitable and pleasant method of passing the time, to look in at the Gaiety or Opera Comique on these occasions. For myself, although I find I have quite enough to do to keep fairly posted in the regular evening performances, I am glad occasionally to vary my occupation by visiting the *matinées dramatiques*—as I think "Mr. and Mrs. William Wiggins" will vouch is the *bong-tong* way of expressing it. Within the last week I have been to two day performances, both of which comprised features worthy of praiseful notice. The first took place at the Opera Comique, upon the occasion of Mr. G. W. Anson's benefit, when that well-trained and accomplished comedian undertook to play in French the part of Camoufflet in *Une Tasse de Thé*. The perfect manner in which Mr. Anson not only assumed the language but also the style of a French actor does him infinite credit. The second performance to which I have alluded was the production of *Mammon* at the Gaiety on Wednesday last. I hope before long that I may have an opportunity of criticising fully when it is produced in the regular way, this exceedingly effective play. It is a mystery to me when I reflect that managers are always bemoaning the dearth of good stage plays, how such a piece as *Mammon* could have had no better than a mere "experimental" morning performance. So good is this play (a very clever adaptation of Feuillet's *Montjoie*) that had it been placed upon the stage with the completeness of any regular West-End production, and acted in all its details with proper care, it could not have failed to make a decided mark. I will not now say more about the piece. As to the acting, it was in one or two of the principal parts excellent, but beyond this the play suffered grievously from the histrionic feebleness of some concerned in the representation. Mr. W. H. Vernon played the part of the financier, Sir Geoffrey Heriot with evident care and much intelligence. In the earlier scenes he would have done better had he altogether forsworn the jaunty, light-comedy air that is proper to the class of part he has had latterly to play, but is not consonant with the

I'll strike you with a pamphlet
I'll stab you with a fract!

character of Geoffrey Heriot. In the more emotional scenes, however, Mr. Vernon rose adequately to the occasion, and carried his audience with him. As Mark Chinnery, the coarse north-country millionaire, Mr. J. D. Beveridge made a hit, by portraying the part with a keenness of characterisation and force of color that made it stand out with true artistic vigour. Mr. J. G. Grahame as George Sorrel played the jeune premier part excellently. One word to the author, who is to be congratulated on the deserved success of his play. He would do well to abolish the noisy deputation of electors, who wait upon Sir Geoffrey at his London mansion. This is quite unnatural, and the entire scene would be more effective if Sir Geoffrey received the deputation (of half a dozen say) in the room, with a quiet speech. A gentleman's private house is not the hustings. Besides, as it is done, the scene recalls *Two Roses*.

THE Earl of Harrington, after a six weeks' cruise in his yacht Bessie off the Spanish coast, recently arrived at Tangier.

IN the preliminary canter for the Selling Hurdle Race at Wolverhampton Sherrington was thrown by Lalage, and his collar-bone broken. He, however, pluckily remounted, rode in the race, and was only beaten a head for third place.

A SPORTING CLUB called the Royal Hibernian Club is in course of formation in Dublin, and promises to be a success. A large building has been purchased, and all the comforts of an hotel, with the facilities of a first-class club, will be provided.

AT Westward Ho, from the golf matches recorded, it may be seen that the players have not been idle, and the green, instead of sending away visitors, seems to be gathering, for as soon as one goes, his place is filled on the following day by three or four fresh arrivals.

SILVER CUPS have been given, as usual, by Lieutenant-Colonel Jelf Sharp, the Master of the East Essex Foxhounds, for the best puppies walked during the present season. The cup for the best dog was awarded to Fenian, walked by Mr. C. Stort, of Febmarsh; and for the best bitch to Bounty, walked by Mr. F. Hale, of the Horn Inn, Braintree. The Essex and Suffolk Hounds have had some good runs in the Tending Hundred during the past season. In the St. Osyth country there has not been a single blank day, and there are plenty of foxes still left.

dramatic literature to start a library withal. The prologue alone embraced mercantile and domestic matters sufficient to occupy the attention of any municipal council for at least a week. Act the First, besides giving me an insight into the geography and customs of our convict settlements abroad, and the facilities they afford for respectable sea captains to roll about in a drunken state, and for easy shaving left me in a state of un-

PIGEON SHOOTING.

HURLINGHAM CLUB.

DESPITE a wet and cheerless afternoon the Club Cup was, on Monday, contested by thirty members at six birds each, three at 26 yards, and three at 20, the ties being shot off at 27½ yards. At the close of the last round a tie was declared in favour of Mr. Bruin and Mr. C. Kerr, each having killed all his birds. In shooting off, Mr. Bruin killed two more, and thus won the cup and £50 with one of Reilly's central-fires. Mr. Kerr took the second money (£10) with one kill less. Each competitor paid an entrance fee of £2. A £1 sweepstakes, at three birds each produced twenty-six shooters, and the pool, which amounted to £20, was divided by Captain Shelley and Mr. Bruin, after each had killed six in very good form.

GUN CLUB, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.

DESPITE the unfavourable weather on Saturday afternoon, there was an excellent attendance at the club grounds. The event in the programme for decision was the Craven Optional Twenty-eight Yards Sweepstakes at seven birds each, those missing two to retire. There were twenty-six competitors, of whom Mr. Charlton Adams and Mr. W. F. Gambier killed all their pigeons, and, on shooting off the ties, an exciting contest ensued, Mr. Charlton Adams ultimately winning the £20 cup presented by the

club and £61, by scoring 22 out of 23; Mr. Gambier killing 21 out of a similar number. The other members who contended were Mr. Henry, Mr. C. O. Clark, Capt. F. Gist, Sir George Hector Leith, Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell, Mr. George, Mr. E. S. Sandemann, Captain Aubrey Patton, and Captain W. Forester Leighton, who killed five each out of six; Mr. T. G. Freke and Mr. Lilydale four each out of six; Captain Yescombe and Mr. Booth three each out of five; Mr. Charles Seaton, Mr. Charles Kerr, and Viscount Stormont two each out of four; Lord Westbury one out of three; and several others who missed two each and retired from further competition. Four sweepstakes at three birds each, all at 28 yards, were also decided, the first with twelve subscribers being won by Mr. Howard S. Jaffray by killing eight. The second, with twenty-one competitors, ended in a division between Mr. C. O. Clark and Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell, after killing six each. The third, with eleven shooters, was taken by Mr. Charles Kerr, scoring five, and the fourth went to Mr. Charlton Adams, who was the only one of the five entries that brought down his three birds.

AN important decision as to dog licenses has been given by Mr. Woolrych, the Westminster police magistrate. In October last a person had a dog without a license at a certain time of the day when an excise officer called upon him, and within half an hour afterwards he procured a license. In the meantime the excise

officer took out a summons against the keeper of the dog. Mr. Woolrych came to the conclusion that the license should take effect on the day it was issued, and that it included the whole of the day, and operated on the antecedent part of the day. He therefore dismissed the summons, but as he understood there were similar cases pending he intimated he would state a case for the Exchequer Division.

On Wednesday evening a complimentary dinner was given in the Westminster Palace Hotel to Daniel O'Leary.

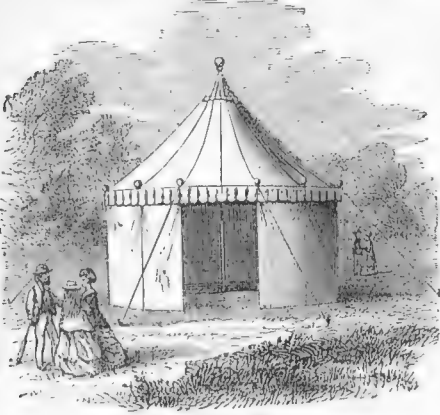
The Alexandra Palace will be opened for the season on the 10th of May. Mr. W. H. Jones, who for several years acted as deputy manager at the Crystal Palace, under the régime of the late Mr. R. K. Bowley, has been appointed manager, and Sir Edward Lee, the late general manager, has accepted the office of consulting director. The Spring Race meeting, under the management of Messrs. Pratt and Barbrook, will follow on the 11th and 12th, 1,000 sovereigns being given as added money, and from the large number of entries excellent fields may be anticipated. On the opening day a concert will take place in the Central Hall, under the conductorship of Mr. H. Weist Hill, in which some eminent artists will take part. The special feature of the programme will consist in the fact that all the selections and all the solo artists will be exclusively English. At the conclusion of the concert a display of fireworks will take place.

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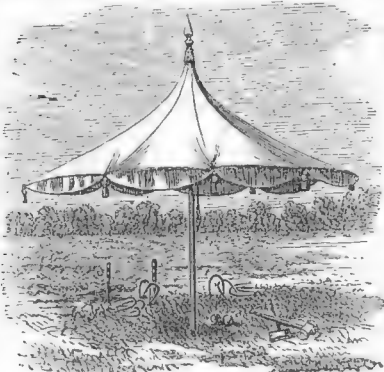
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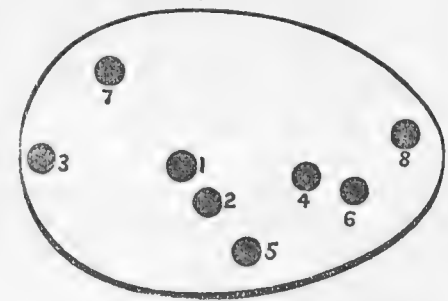
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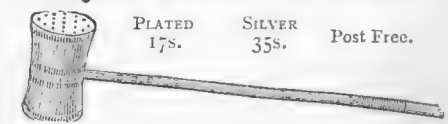
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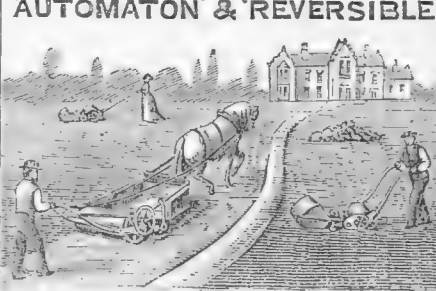
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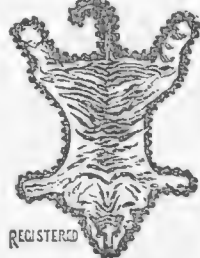
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MESSRS. TATTERSALL beg to give notice that their THURSDAY'S SALES have now COMMENCED, and will be CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE SEASON. Horses on View. Catalogues ready every Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock.—ALBERT-GATE, HYDE-PARK.

NOTICE.

MESSRS. TATTERSALL'S STALLS are ALL ENGAGED on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS till the 25th of JUNE. Albert Gate, Hyde Park, April 21, 1877.

THE CRAVEN HOUNDS AND HORSES.

MESSRS. TATTERSALL have received instructions from R. Harcourt Capper, Esq., who is giving up the Craven country, to SELL by AUCTION, at the KENNELS, WALCOT, near HUNGERFORD, BERKS, on WEDNESDAY, MAY 2nd, commencing at 1 o'clock, the following well known PACK of FOXHOUNDS, consisting of forty-six couples of old hounds, twelve and a half couples of unentered hounds, sixteen and a half couples of puppies, three brood bitches and whelps. Also SEVENTEEN HORSES (that have been regularly hunted with the above hounds), HACKS, &c., the property of R. Harcourt Capper, Esq.

Catalogues are now ready, and may be had of Messrs. Tattersall, Albert Gate, Hyde Park, and at the Kennels, Walcot, near Hungerford, Berks.

Notice.—The 9.55 train from Reading will run through to Kintbury Station on the morning of the sale.

CHESTER RACES.

MESSRS. TATTERSALL have received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, at the GROSVENOR ARMS YARD, CHESTER, on THURSDAY, MAY 10th (the day after the Chester Cup), the ENTIRE RACING STUD, the property of a Gentleman, with engagements.

1. UNCLE TOM, aged.
2. PITMAN, 5 yrs.
3. GELDING by Julius out of Luscinia, 4 yrs.
4. BARROWDEN, 6 yrs.
5. YORK, 4 yrs.
6. TWEED, 5 yrs.
7. FILLY by Pero Gomez out of English Rose, 3 yrs.
8. FILLY by Strathconan out of Slut, 2 yrs.
9. FILLY by Brown Bread out of Arrah-na-Pogue, 2 yrs.
10. FILLY by Fortunio out of Arrah-na-Pogue, 3 yrs.
11. Stallion, JARNAC by Flying Dutchman out of Juliette.

Further particulars in future papers.

THE CHESHIRE HORSES.

MESSRS. TATTERSALL have received instructions from H. Reginald Corbet, Esq., to SELL, at the KENNELS, DALEFORD, NORTHWICH, on the SATURDAY after Chester Races, MAY 12th, about FIFTY HORSES (which have been regularly hunted with the Cheshire Hounds), Harness Horses, HACKS, &c., &c.

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TO BE SOLD by AUCTION by Messrs. TATTERSALL, near ALBERT GATE, HYDE PARK, on MONDAY, MAY 14th, the property of the Earl of Shannon.

About FORTY HORSES that have been regularly hunted with the V.W.H. Also some PHAETON HORSES. Further particulars in future papers.

SEVENTH ANNUAL QUORN SALE.

MESSRS. TATTERSALL have received instructions from J. Coupland, Esq. (Master of the Quorn Hounds), to SELL by AUCTION, at Albert Gate, Hyde Park, on MONDAY, the 21st of May, about FIFTY HORSES that have been ridden by the master and servants during the season. Also several superior Hacks and Harness Horses, with good action.

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MR. RYMILL will SELL by AUCTION, on the premises, as above, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, May 9th and 10th, at Twelve o'clock each day, 140 Job Horses, consisting of March Teams and Pairs, mostly young, just off their respective jobs, all quiet in harness. 70 Carriages, comprising Drags, Private Omnibuses, Waggonettes, Phaetons, Broughams, Landaus, Breaks, Hansoms and Clarence Cabs, &c. 100 sets of Harness, Clothing, and the necessary Utensils of a large jobmaster. On view two days prior. Catalogues and Particulars of the Auctioneer, at his Repository, Barbican, E.C.

HORSES.—MR. F. MOSTYN, 19, Green-street, Park-lane; The Hall, Uppingham, Rutland, has a number of high-class Hunters, HACKS, and Harness Horses, for Sale—open to Veterinary examination.

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Printed for the Proprietor by JAMES and GEORGE Judd, at the Office of Messrs. Judd & Co., 4, 5, and 6, St. Andrew's-hill, Doctors' Commons, in the Parish of St. Ann, in the City of London, and published by GEORGE MADDICK, Jun., at 148, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, London.—SATURDAY, April 28, 1877.

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"SONGS OF BOHEMIA."

Be mine the poet's careless song,
I envy not the hero's deeds,
And thus through life I pass along,
Unmindful of the jarring creeds.

"THE BOHEMIAN."

WELL! after much thinking I haven't a doubt,
Of the pleasures attending Bohemian life,
But to really enjoy them, one should be without,
The dubious commodity known as a wife.

The Bohemian seeks pleasures and banishes gloom,
Is as free from all care as an old pagan Greek—
This world he regards as a large airy room,
Which he's welcome to live in, at so much per week.

He loves to converse with congenial souls
About Music, the Drama, and Art, and all that,
While he quaffs what the poets call bright flowing bowls,
And the air is alive with artistic chit-chat.

At the theatre too, when the curtain is down,
He adjourns to the green-room and smokes a cigar,
Or retails the last joke he has heard about town,
To a semi-draped nymph, or a fallow-faced star.

He has always been poor from the day of his birth,
So cares not for income, or property taxes,
It suffices for him if this glorious old earth
Revolve round the sun and rotate on its axis.

And mark too! tho' poor, he is still one of those,
Who with comfort and luxury seem to exist,
For whatever he does, or wherever he goes,
His expenses are paid, or he's on the free-list.

And thus he lives on—Can you have any doubt
That it's pleasant, this careless Bohemian life,—
Of course I'm supposing that you are without
The dubious commodity, known as a wife.

ARTHUR P. MARTIN.

Melbourne, February 18, 1877.

HEATHERTHORP.

A SPORTING STORY.

BY BYRON WEBBER.

CHAPTER XII. (Continued).

"Nonsense, Kate! you frighten yourself with shadows. Suppose your dear, aggravating papa suffers from a few twinges of the gout—what then? But, you know he is well enough to make his appearance as a host, even if he leave the more active duties of entertaining the guests to us. And then—the gout! You forget what a bond of union that is between him and Sir Harry. The baronet's an ancient county family, and I have observed, that one of the things which ancient county families cultivate and preserve—just as they do the game—is the gout."

"But, my dear Syl, if he should be cross with Arthur?"

"Then Arthur, as a sensible young man, must not be cross with him, that's all."

"Oh, I do wish the party were over!" exclaimed Kate; "I feel sure that something is going to happen."

"Wish and feel as much as you please, Kate Wilson, only—don't faint. I could bear anything but that. If you show the smallest symptom of going off, I abdicate on the instant. Remember!"

This conversation took place in Miss Wilson's room after the young ladies had put the finishing touches to their toilettes.

Sylvia had seen to everything—even to Mr. Wilson's gout; that is to say, she had informed herself of the fact of his being able to put his foot down without the remainder of his body undergoing intolerably sympathetic contortions, and she considered that was as much as they could ask for. So long as he was able to show, and play propriety, she and Kate could accomplish the rest.

Nothing could have been better than the dinner, and all the guests behaved to admiration. The parson and his wife, consummate judges of such matters, as those who have had the luck to dine at the Parsonage know,—could find no fault with the cuisine. Their three grown-up daughters, being very much grown-up, and quite beyond the pulpy stage of girlhood, similarly—if silently—appreciated Kate's dinner. After testimony like this, no account need be taken of the curate, who, indeed, would not have been amongst the guests, if it had not been an understood thing that wherever the girls from the Parsonage went, he must go likewise in his patient capacity of clerical and unsalaried footpage. Although the Rev. Richard Butterwick, Mrs. Butterwick, and the three Miss Butterwicks were quite aware that the party at the Place had been arranged to supplement the races, they preferred, in view of meeting Sir Harry Sursingle, and the new member for the Riding, to shut their eyes to that unepiscopalian circumstance. Indeed, if the truth must be told, the parson rather believed in our national sports, sir, which have a healthy influence, sir, when not carried to excess; and it was whispered (originally by Essom) that he had actually been seen in the Ring at Doncaster no more than two St. Legers back. People will talk! Mrs. Butterwick affected not national sports, but she was known to all the country-side as an artist in cribbage. As the curate, the Rev. Neville Reredos, lived in a ritualistic atmosphere of his own, outside which all was vague, he would no more have thought of inquiring the cause of the party at Wimpledale Place than he would have dared to question Mrs. Butterwick's imperious right to hale him thither, as a foil to her three full-blown daughters. Besides the new member for the Riding, the Honourable Mr. Minim, Woodridge, and the Doctor, together with those guests we have named, there were a hard-riding captain of the—th, named Kay, who had brought his own nag and won the Welter, —Miss Vandervelde's brother Albrecht—a blonde young man with a lisp and an eyeglass—two of Mr. Wilson's friends from Shipley, Sir Harry's lawyer, and just a sufficient number of those persons who may be dismissed by the appellation "the other sex," to make up a pleasant quadrille should that be needed.

"The fact is, Doctor, you ride better than I do."

Kate and Sylvia exchanged glances. It was Woodridge who spoke, and not sarcastically.

"You do yourself injustice," replied the Doctor, surprised at his rival's sweetness; there is not an ounce between us. If you had come away from the water you would have won."

"Mr. Reredos, what does Doctor Sutton mean by an ounce

between them, and coming away from the water?" inquired the gushing Miss Butterwick, of the rapt curate.

"Really,—eh? I have no idea. Something in medicine, I have no doubt."

"A most delicious entrée, my dear; ask Miss Wilson for the recipe."

"I will," replied the faithful partner in palate and parochial duties of the Rev. Richard Butterwick.

"No, Wilson, they are too well educated already; depend upon that, sir."

"I agree with you, Sir Harry," observed in the parliamentary manner, the Honourable Mr. Minim. "How can you—haw—preserve the lines of demarcation between class and class—haw—unless you keep down what is called the education of the masses to—haw—a safe level?"

"Well, I believe in education," remarked Mr. Wilson, with the emphasis of a man who felt what he said. "Give everybody a chance."

"But—haw—pardon me, sir," submitted the young senator, "what is to become of the land, if you give your labourers and labourers' wives education?"

"I should be disposed to ask the same question, Mr. Minim," said the parson. "The labouring classes are too apt to slight their pastors and masters, as it is. A little learning, you know, sir."

And so the talk went on, Sylvia thereafter taking a prominent part in it. Practically, she was the hostess. Her vivacity was precisely the element required to set off Kate's modest—and, let it be confessed, somewhat love-lorn grace. Together, and helping each other to shed over the board the daintier hospitalities of the house of Wilson, they were charming. Not the least remarkable feature in Miss Vandervelde's shower of sprightly words were those she was pleased to bestow on Woodridge. Even Kate, anxiously happy, and nervously subdued as she was, sitting in the light of her lover's countenance, found herself wondering what it all meant. That Sylvia should throw her most captivating wiles about Woodridge, was, after what had happened, simply incomprehensible.

The heaviest dinner in the country must come to an end some time, and so did this. The ladies retired. Woodridge, the Doctor, and Captain Kay, of the—th, entered into an animated discussion as to the respective merits of cocktails and thorough-breds across country; then the education of the masses question was resumed, and the curate, no longer dismayed by the presence of Mrs. Butterwick and her lovely daughters, ventured to take Mr. Wilson's view of the subject, whereupon the Rev. Richard Butterwick ruthlessly sat upon him for his pains. Presently the ladies were rejoined, and later on,—wonder upon wonders!—behold Kate standing up with Woodridge in a quadrille, and not disliking it, either, for Reginald was really making himself most agreeable. The Doctor, meekly resigned to his fate, had for his *vis-à-vis* the plainest of the Miss Butterwicks. The select band of three, bidden from Shipley in case they might happen to be wanted, rattled through the old English airs of the quadrille right jollily; the dancers had already hunted the hare, tripped it to a favourite tune of Charles the Second's, whistled o'er the lea with the curly-headed ploughboy, and commenced with the downfall of Paris, when Sylvia whispered to her partner, Captain Kay, of the—th—

"They can get on without us, Captain, so let me ask you to conduct me to a seat. There is Burroughs, Miss Wilson's maid, wishes to speak to me; and, judging from the gravity of her countenance, she has something to say."

The gallant captain performed his task to admiration. Sylvia approached Burroughs.

"Well, what is it?"

"Mr. Wilson, 'm, is very unwell in the lib'ry. I don't like to speak to Miss Wilson,—she might be alarmed."

"I will go with you."

When she returned, the quadrille was at an end. Approaching Doctor Sutton, she said—

"Mr. Wilson requires medical aid; he is in the library. You are the only doctor here, so go."

His stay was more prolonged than hers had been, and when he returned, looking very grave indeed, he said—

"It is nothing serious. One of those slight things that admit of almost immediate relief. But that is not all I wanted to tell you. When I had made him comfortable for the night, I spoke to him on the old subject,—you know. I had made up my mind to speak this night, some time, and somehow. I was a fool, Miss Vandervelde. He is as implacable as before—Kate is not for me!"

"Tut, tut, man! that is never the way to talk. If he *won't* give his consent, get married without it."

"What! elope?" he exclaimed, in a stage whisper; "the very thing I was longing to suggest, only I was afraid. That is your advice then?"

"Doctor Sutton, I have spoken."

As may be imagined, this conversation did not take place in the centre of the room. But Wimpledale Place lacked not those heavily-curtained recesses, that seem made for the exchange of confidences of this nature; made too, it would appear, for the purpose of covering the retreat of young gentlemen like Mr. Reginald Woodridge, who are dying for a surreptitious cigar on the balcony. At all events Mr. W. re-entered the apartment by the very window that had erewhile sheltered the two conspirators. They were gone separate ways, but Sylvia, happening to turn her eyes, saw by the expression of Woodridge's face that he had heard all. Here was a dilemma! She must gain him to their side, or there would assuredly be a *fiasco*. She advanced towards him and stood fairly in his path.

"Mr. Woodridge, you know something I had rather you did not know; but there is no help for it. May I—"

"Miss Vandervelde, do you remember our last interview?"

"I do,—and I remember something more,—the faith I once had in your honour and chivalry."

"Once!"

"And lost; but not utterly." Her voice faltered as it fashioned these words. "Reginald Woodridge, I have set my heart on their marrying. I need not explain. Do not disappoint me."

"Sylvia, I will not," he replied, emphatically. They parted without exchanging another syllable.

The carpet dances were followed by charades, wherein she took no part. Capt. Kay, however, proved himself as much an adept at acting as he was over timber and yawners. A cantankerous old hunk troubled with an affection of the bronchial tubes in one act; a professional-looking bespectacled person, who wrote upon blue-laid foolscap, with a quill-pen, in another act; and a black servant, with a tray of cups and saucers, in another, went to form, as Kate whisperingly opined to the Doctor, the word Coffee. Of course Capt. Kay was assisted by a stock company—which included the curate—but he was certainly the principal figure in each tableau.

Other charades succeeded; notably one wherein the Doctor and Kate appeared. Sylvia watched this with great interest, and, apparently, no little satisfaction. The Doctor never looked so handsome—Kate never so radiant; albeit her face wore an expression that was inscrutable to all save Woodridge and Sylvia.

"To-night, is it?" said the latter young lady to herself, "then I must be stirring. I will be with you at once, my dear," said her eyes, in answer to an unmistakable look of appeal from our

darling. "And then to terrify Burroughs into silence, or else to gag and lock her up."

The guests were loud in praise of the charades—loud and long, much to Miss Vandervelde's annoyance. Then one by one they departed; the Doctor, amongst the earliest, tearing away towards Heatherthorp, at a rate that spoke much for his horsemanship and his knowledge of the road. He was one of the first to leave; the last,—a foot, were two young ladies, and their destination was—.

CHAPTER XIII.

CONJOINTLY INSPIRED BY HIS MASTER'S EXPLOIT ON THE MOOR, THE RESULT OF HIS OWN WAGERING, AND MARTIN SILLERY'S UNEXCEPTIONAL COMMISSARIAT, CRISP POURS FORTH HIS SOUL IN SONG. THE DOCTOR, ASSISTED BY HIS SERVANT, BEGINS TO TAKE A LEADING PART IN A MODERN —AND PROSAIC—VERSION OF THE BALLAD OF YOUNG LOCHINVAR.

If there was one accomplishment upon which, above all others, Mr. Essom prided himself, it was his carving. Not as a carver of wood, like Grinling Gibbons, nor of Carrara marble, like Gibson, did he deem himself superior to his neighbours; but as a deft dissector of toothsome birds—an artistic slicer of juicy joints. Severely impressive when dealing with the church-rate question, wearing an air of shrewd knowingness during his disquisitions on sporting matters, and appearing quite masterful while he manipulated those instruments of Sheffield manufacture wherewith he earned his bread and cheese, Mr. Essom looked, and was, Great when, presidentially seated at the head of the table, he operated on haunch or saddle or bird. Nettled at his losses over the principal event of the meeting (for so the match was considered), he had resolved to mortify the flesh by absenting himself from what mine host of the Sursingle was pleased to denominate "the spread." Mine host was in despair. Who the devil was to carve, goodness knew! (Herein please to observe that dining *à la Russe* had yet to find favour in the eyes of Heatherthorp.) He could not, that was a certainty. What with having to keep an eye on the bar, and an eye on his daughter—deep in the little bills of those gentlemen who were obliged to depart by the up express—and an eye on the kitchen, and an eye on the head she-cook—a clever person, but in business prone to imbibition—and another on the stables, with certainly another on the master of his horse (otherwise the head ostler, whose most objectional trait, at vespers—when he became a conspicuous proof of the potency of the Sursingle tap—took the form of undue familiarity with his clients), he, even Martin Sillery, was just about at his wits' end as it was. Indeed, if he could manage to look in upon his guests for a few minutes after dinner, that would be all. He begged and prayed of Essom, not to forsake him in the hour of his need. Come now!

Essom yielded. But although his vanity was tickled by the fervour of Sillery's appeal—wherein he saw nothing comic; carving was too serious a subject to be laughed at—he was too acute a diplomatist to over-hastily betray his subjugation. If he had yielded, Essom should not be made aware of the fact yet.

"You know, Mr. Essom," piteously continued the landlord, "that there's never a one among 'em fit to handle a carver as it ought to be handled; and it cuts me to the bone to see my best joints haggled as though they had been dug into with a hay-spade at a pic-nic. And as for the birds! Lor, blesh you! Ask for a wing, and I'll bet you ten to one they send you—oh! yes, *they'll* send you a wing!—and half the breast, and a small bone, and about two inches of the back into the bargain! Mr. Essom, it's awful! I repeat, it's awful! Now don't leave me in the lurch."

"Well, well, Sillery, we'll see," replied our friend, with an air of lofty yet complacent condescension. "If my luck was only to turn I would not mind; but when a fellow has been dropping it, and dropping it as I've been dropping it, what heart has he for enjoying himself? It takes all that sort of thing out of him, you know."

"Oh, never fear! Come and have a nip out of my private bottle."

This agonising conversation took place on the moor during one of those provoking lulls which occur at the best-regulated race-meetings, and are the conspicuous feature of meetings not the best regulated. The local starter was testing the patience of his public by performing with a red flag a series of experiments of a bull-baiting character. He was striving hard to discover the best means of not despatching a field of seven sober-minded horses for the penultimate race of the meeting, and success was crowning his efforts. He had kept the horses at the post, dancing an irregular saraband, for so protracted a period that bettors of every degree had calmly abandoned speculation; while the officials (amongst whom Sillery may almost be included, since he was responsible for what is elegantly termed the catering) were enabled to take breath—and something to give it a flavour.

Essom's speech lubricated, and his communicativeness augmented, by the nip from Sillery's private bottle, he informed the host of the Sursingle, in the highly metaphorical language of the Turf, that he had put the pot on that journey, and if it came off crabs he was stumped. He had backed a reg'lar nailer, a cove that could give tons to any of the others.

"What's more," added Essom, as, in genial acquiescence to an earnest request to moisten that other eye, he raised his elbow, "my cove's spinning. I have had it from the owner as straight as a bolt. He has only to stand up and walk in!" The intelligent reader is under no misapprehension as to the application of Mr. Essom's pronouns. His cove was a quadruped.

Sillery, professionally anxious about the carving, yearned for Mr. Essom's owner's cove to stand up and win. His yearnings were satisfied. Mr. D. E. could now boast a trifling balance on the right side of his book.

"All right?" queried Sillery, as Essom emerged from the weighing-room, whither he had hurried to see his cove safely past the scale.

"All right!" replied Essom, with emphasis. They were happy.

(To be continued.)

WE regret to announce the death of Mrs. T. Roberts (Rebecca Isaacs), which took place at her residence, 119, Great Tichfield-street, on Saturday last.

A NEW private archery society has been formed, and will be composed of gentlemen invited to join the ranks of membership by those already enrolled. The season of 1877 will commence on the first Monday in May.

THE members of the Royal Toxophilite Society met on April 19, to shoot their Crunden Extra Target, 144 arrows at 100 yards. The afternoon proved favourable, though a strong north-east wind prevailed. Dr. Harris won the Crunden Challenge Cup and medal, and eight points towards the gold medal. Mr. Yates Foot won Sir H. Martin's challenge medal for score. The subscription prize for the best gold was won by Col. Robertson. Mr. H. Kendal became the Budworth member, and won the second subscription gold prize.

CARDINAL, ECRU, AND TWENTY-FOUR OTHER COLOURS.—JUNSON'S DYES are most useful and effectual. Ribbons, Scarves, Jackets, Table-covers, &c., &c., are easily dyed in ten minutes. Ask for JUNSON'S DYES, at Chemists and Stationers. Price Sixpence per bottle.—[ADVT.]



THE ROAD.

The Car-drivingest people in the World

The Military Element.

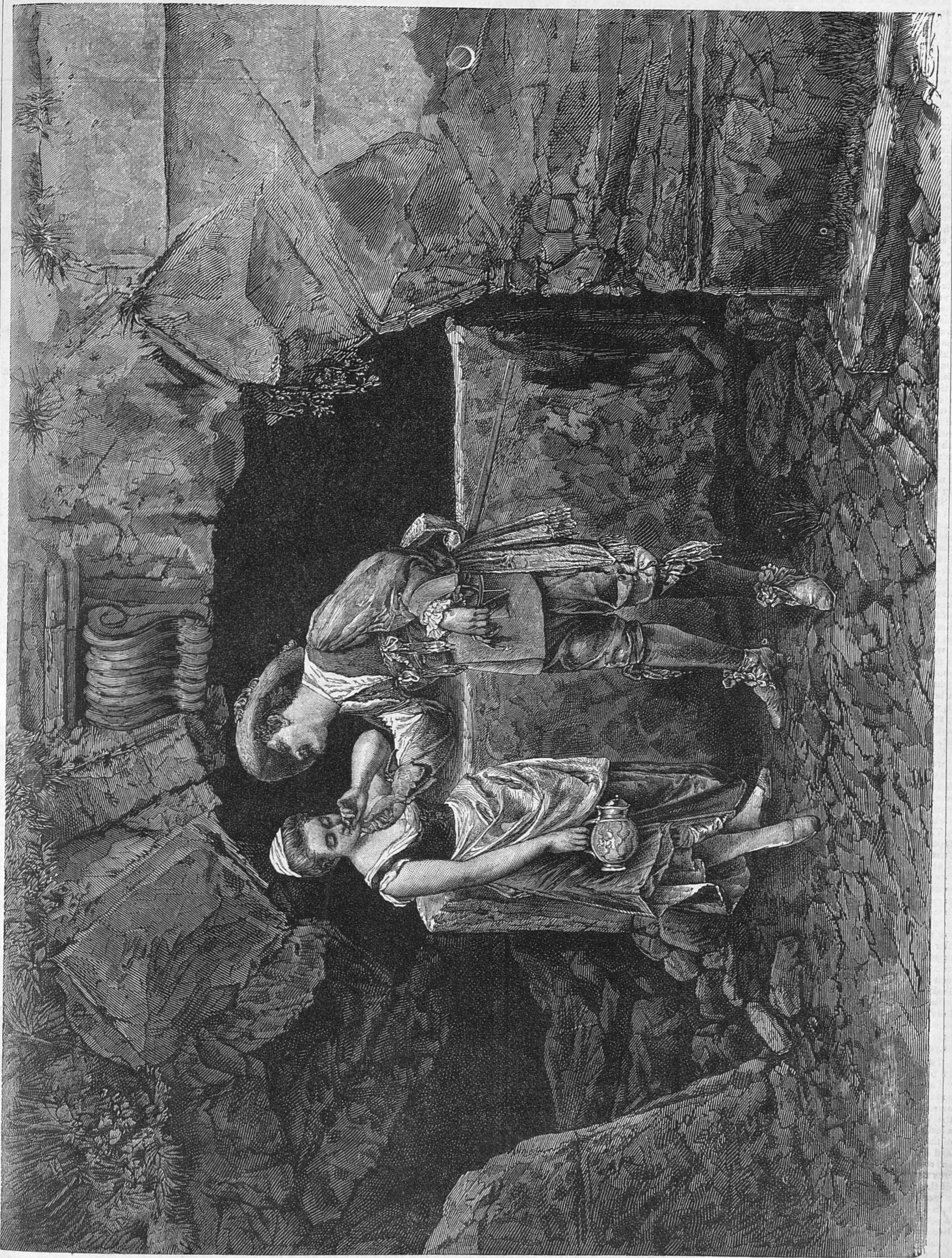


The Brook



The Double.

Sturges



"HE LOVES AND HE RIDES AWAY."

OUI DIRE.

THE people in town who tolerate the shrill horrors of the railway whistle, are protesting against the warning jingle of the tram-way cars as a public nuisance.

S. LE BLANC SMITH has called attention to the following remarkable display of the homing power of an Antwerp bred by him from some Belgian imported birds last spring. When they were about seven weeks old he gave six young birds to a lady residing within five miles of Exeter, but she was unfortunate enough to lose all but one bird at the hands of hawks or other vermin. Not caring to keep this solitary specimen, she gave it to a friend at Clifton, Hampden, about seven miles from Oxford. After being shut up for a week, it was liberated on a Thursday, and between 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. on Friday it was back in its loft at Exeter. Mr. Smith was informed that it had never been tossed or trained at all. He guesses the distance roughly at about 120 miles.

THE *Daily Telegraph* says of the Shakspeare's Memorial Theatre, of which the corner stone was laid on Monday last at Stratford-on-Avon, "We cannot see any reasonableness in the building of a theatre in a small country town, to be dedicated to Shakspeare's memory and devoted to his plays. The eccentricity that placed the Wagner Opera House at out-of-the-way Bayreuth was successful, for once; but we are not sure that it could be repeated even in Germany, and nothing analogous is likely to be successful here." Unfortunately for this argument, Wagner's idea had nothing new in it; similar speculations had previously been successful, and others still are so in Germany. "In London itself, with its command of a large body of actors and actresses, it is very difficult for a manager with a high ideal of completeness to place one of Shakspeare's plays on the stage with full reliance on the adequacy of the performance as a whole. What likelihood is there that a company either resident at Stratford, or collected for the nonce, could give anything like a good representation even of his least difficult plays?" Yet Shakspeare's plays can be put before provincial audiences, and even London companies do visit country theatres. "Then who will the spectators be? An actor catches something from a good audience, a stimulus without which his best interpretations will lack fire, an intelligent appreciation which rewards his conscientious care. Who can expect such merits in the inhabitants of a country town or the gentry of the neighbourhood, not habitually familiar with the highest standards of representation?" How like a cockney is this, and how like the cockney is the following. "It is easy to understand the kind of hero-worship which prompts pilgrimages to Shakspeare's town and grave; but there are special reasons in his case that should induce us not to push this consecration of locality too far. Stratford-on-Avon was, no doubt, the place where he was born, got married, and died; but these are incidents in the life of the man, not the poet. But Stratford is not associated with Shakspeare in this way. He left it when he was twenty-three, and, as far as can be made out, did not return to it for regular residence until twenty-two years had elapsed—until, in fact, he had ceased to be an actor, a shareholder in a theatre, and an actively working playwright. To this period of his life at Stratford—a repose of seven years before his death—tradition attributes at the most six of his plays, and these not his best, showing, indeed, as to suitability for the stage a distinct falling off. To regard Shakspeare truly, then, we must look on him as a Londoner. Thus the Frenchman looked upon Shakspeare as his countryman for a reason quite as good. If fire had spared the theatre at Shoreditch, where his earliest plays were produced, or the Globe, its successor, the homage of the world might surround it with a crystal case to preserve for ever the stage he trod. Even if we knew for certain the houses or rooms he occupied in London, we might make them objects of pilgrimage. But a theatre for his plays in the locality where he was born, while none is consecrated to the same purpose in London, where he wrote and acted and spent the best years of his life, seems to us essentially absurd." If the good thing is not where I am, says the *D.T.*, let no good thing be permitted to exist. "Whether there ever will be a national monument of any kind to Shakspeare is doubtful. Had he been a lesser man, he would have had many statues long ago. It is felt that such memorials are needful for persons whom posterity might otherwise ignore, and a sectional hero arouses a partisan enthusiasm, half due to the doubts of others about his real greatness." Exactly so, but in this case it is the works of Shakspeare that will be his most fitting monument and "greatest memorial." The *D.T.* goes on to doubt if Stratford and its neighbourhood can support such a theatre, and says: "There is nothing of this kind in the case of Shakspeare; there is no opposition, and therefore no necessity for fiery advocacy, while we know that generation after generation will study his works and find in them his greatest memorial. No amount of wealth would secure it long life and prosperity without continuous taste and skill on the part of some dynasty of 'heaven-born' managers, able to collect from all parts of England, keep together and recruit an undying corporation of actors and actresses, physically and intellectually equal to their part." But the *D.T.* has here altogether mistaken the purpose of the Memorial, as the reader of our special report of the proceedings at Stratford on Monday last will readily perceive. If such a building merely collects year by year on the birthday of Shakspeare, true lovers of his works and those who are most eminent of their exponents, either as lecturers or actors, it will do lofty work of the highest character, and be well worthy of its position and pretensions, even if it be in the town of his birth, his early studies, his latter life, and his death, and not in that of his player life, London.

THE *Daily News* says of this Memorial theatre:—"The theatrical part of the scheme does not seem to us very promising. The ultimate object of the Association is not to have a theatre open throughout the year, but to have a building available for occasional performances." So far this plan answers to that of the Wagner theatre house at Bayreuth. We in England should have a festival answering to that quaint Panteutonic gathering in that out of the way German town. There is a certain boldness in the idea, and if Stratford-on-Avon could obtain such distinguished—not to say royal—patronage as Bayreuth it would be fortunate as long as it was fashionable. Probably this ambitious idea is far from the minds of the friends of the Shakspeare memorial. They do not wish to give a momentary fillip to the taste for his poetry, but to help to maintain a high standard of intelligent acting. Unluckily Stratford-on-Avon is too distant and has too little accommodation to become the scene and centre of a great and permanent sort of Shakspearean pilgrimage. The attraction of the birthplace and home of Shakspeare are great to all who care for poetry, but they are of a more domestic sort, and appeal to feelings more deep and true than those which drive people into distant country towns to see some novelty. The Stratford Theatre has disadvantages in this way which cannot be got over by an argument drawn from the example of Meiningen. It is hoped that the building, or the performances, or both, for the sentence in the prospectus is not very clear, "may hereafter form the nucleus of a school or schools of acting, under experienced and qualified teachers." The accounts of what has been done at Meiningen, "in Germany, a town about the same size as Stratford, may serve to indicate what the Association aims at," but Meiningen only resembles Stratford in size. A benevolent Grand Duke and his Court can give an impulse to

dramatic taste in a little German capital, which the pecuniary aid of all the admirers of Shakspeare in the world cannot secure for an English country town.

THE *Builder* has the following lines:—

ON SHAKSPEARE'S CHAIR.

(Recently sold at Sotheby's.)

ONLY a wooden chair! And yet no royal throne
Has e'er held sceptred monarchs whose imperial sway
Possess'd such mighty power o'er hearts and minds of men:
They mostly but the puppets of a pageant were
That the effacing hand of time has swept away;
But this man's wondrous power beyond the tomb lives on
And grows for evermore.

And in that chair

He traced those tender types of varied womanhood
That live graved on our hearts and in our memory:
Each chord, each diapason of the human heart
In turn was struck and answer'd by this master hand:
The statesman's eloquence, the jester's merry quip,
The deeper notes of sad despair and life-long agony;
And, rising high o'er all, love's pure and tender tones.
Then come the warrior's march,—the warlike clash of arms;
The conqueror's shout! the ringing burst of victory;
Till, wonder-struck, one feels Time naught, as for all age
Our Shakspeare lives, and dimly through the midst of years
Fancy can see him seated there, serenely calm,
Swift penning the immortal verse that held,—that holds
A spell-bound world entranced,—his listening captive still.

A YORKSHIRE correspondent writes: "John Jackson, the great bowler, in early life used to run after the Rufford in the neighbourhood of Ollerton, and he acquired notoriety from his speed and endurance ere he became famous as a cricketer. But John Jackson is a mere cipher as compared with another man of the same character who recently died at Grimesthorpe, near Sheffield, at the rare old age of ninety-three. This was Mr. John Carr, a most extraordinary person, who from a very early age displayed such an ardent liking for field sports, particularly the chase, that he kept up the charter until within a very few years of his death. It was at the juvenile age of seven that John Carr took part in his first run. This was with the Fitzwilliam, under the old Earl, when that celebrated pack was, as it has been more or less up to the present day, the pride of Yorkshire hunting men. After this the boy, who was of good parentage, though unfortunately not overburdened with 'the means that make the mare to go,' used regularly to join in the Earl's runs, and his lithe figure has been familiar to at least three generations of sportsmen connected with the Fitzwilliam Hunt. When he was some forty years of age his passionate devotion to the grand old sport procured for him the post of huntsman of the Ecclesfield Harriers, which he held for a long time, and was greatly liked. Wonderful stories are told of his powers of endurance. Once while out with the harriers on Attercliffe Common the dogs ran among some growing oats, and Carr had great difficulty in getting them out again. This was in the early part of the season, and whilst he was waiting he observed an unusual number of conveyances driving towards Doncaster, it being the glorious morning of the St. Leger. He made no more to do, but started off on foot, got there in time to see the race, and walking back to Crabtree, where he lived, arrived there the same night, having got over a distance of nearly sixty miles—a performance it would take some of our so-called prodigies of the present day all their time to beat. It is stated on the best authority that on one occasion old John ran forty miles in six hours with the Fitzwilliam, and it was no uncommon thing for him to run thirty miles in a day. He followed the Fitzwilliam for nearly eighty years, and until a few days before his death he was able to walk fifteen miles in a day with ease. He was a very temperate man, and had a strong objection to riding in conveyances, having only journeyed in a train once in his life, and then only three miles, after which he declared he had had quite enough, and kept his word."

"GIBUS," a critic of the *Sporting Gazette* said, "I had not read the bitter comments made by the Press upon the *Pink Dominos* when last week I wrote my notice of that extremely diverting production. Had I read them—particularly those in that virtuous organ the *Daily Telegraph*—I should have been at pains to show that I am suffering from no greater moral obliquity than my neighbours; that I am neither a professional playwright nor a professional critic, but simply an ordinary theatre-goer, unaffected by those jealousies which I am given to understand occasionally determine the judgments of my more distinguished contemporaries. I propose to make good my insinuation, particularly as regards the violently virtuous onslaught in the *Daily Telegraph*. And I propose to make it good by stating certain facts which, in the interests of truth and justice, should not be confined to the limited circulation obtainable in the theatrical and literary clubs. The facts are these:—1.—The name of one of the adaptors of *The Great Divorce Case* at the Criterion is Mr. Clement Scott. 2.—The name of one of the adaptors of *Peril at the Prince of Wales's* is Mr. Clement Scott. 3.—The name of the adaptor of the *Vicarage at the Prince of Wales's* is Mr. Clement Scott. 4.—The name of the gentleman who was anxious to adapt *Les Dominos Roses* for the Criterion is Mr. Clement Scott. 5.—The first three pieces, although two of them contain situations quite as 'immoral' as any in the *Pink Dominos*, received lengthy and eulogistic notices in the *Daily Telegraph*, while the last mentioned piece was attacked in a short and virulent article. 6.—The name of the dramatic critic of the *Daily Telegraph* is Mr. Clement Scott. I make no comment on these facts. It is right, however, that they should be known, and that the general public should have an opportunity of measuring the value of certain criticisms—an opportunity which can scarcely be embraced so long as dramatists who are also critics wisely elect to retain the shield of the anonymous."

In the issue of the week following the appearance of the above, the following courteous communication was published:—"Union Club, S.W., April 14th, 1877.—My Dear Gibus,—I am very much obliged to you for your flattering allusion to so humble an individual as myself, but allow me to supplement your remarks with the following, viz.:—1. I was never anxious to adapt *Les Dominos Roses*, nor was I asked to do so, no! would I have done so had I been asked. 2. I never saw *The Pink Dominos* until Thursday night last, i.e., ten days after its production. 3. I thoroughly agree with you that it is a most ingenious work, admirably acted throughout.—Yours faithfully, CLEMENT SCOTT."

SOMEBODY must be responsible for a picture representing what purports to be the meeting of the foxhounds at Kilkenny Castle. There is in the background a representation of the mediaeval stronghold of the Butlers, and ranged in a semicircle on each side of the spacious lawn are horsemen in dooskin. There is not the tail of one dog to be seen—even of the inevitable dog; but in the centre of the vacant space are two figures "standing like greyhounds on the slip." These figures represent the Lord of the Castle and the Duke of Connaught meeting; but some traitor has printed underneath the picture—"The Meeting of the Foxhounds." What is to be done to him? So says the *Court Journal*.

"HELP me to some Light."

Use Chappuis' Daylight Reflectors. Factory, 69, Fleet-street.—[ADVT.]

CHESS.

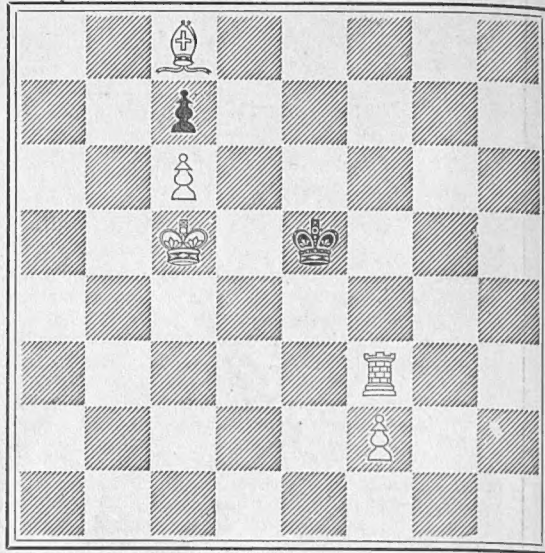
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. B. (Boxford).—One of your problems shall appear next week.
A. E. S. (Exeter).—Thanks for the corrected diagrams. We shall be glad to hear from you again.
J. S. W. (Brompton).—The games and problems shall be examined and reported on next week.
R. T. (Sheffield).—You can become a country member of almost any of the London Chess Clubs. For afternoon play the St. George's, King-street, St. James's.
Correct Solutions of Problem, No. 141, received from S. Howe, J. B. (of Boxford), Queen of Connaught, R. R., Only Jones, H. Manx, William the Silent, Triton and Westminster Chimes.

PROBLEM NO. 142.

By T. F. SMYTHE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN LONDON.

An instructive game lately played at Simpson's Divan.

[Q B P's Opening.]

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
Mr. Janssens.	Mr. Minchin.	Mr. Janssens.	Mr. Minchin.
1. P to K 4	P to K 4	20. K R to K B sq	P to Q B 5
2. Kt to K B 3	Kt to Q B 3	21. K to Kt sq	Q to K sq
3. P to Q B 3	Kt to K B 3 (a)	22. B to Q 4	R to R 1
4. P to Q 4	Kt takes K P	23. Kt to Kt 5	B takes Kt P (f)
5. P to Q 5	B to Q B 4	24. R to B 2	K to K Kt 3
6. P takes Kt	Btks B P (ch) (b)	25. R takes B	Q to K 2
7. K to K 2	Kt P takes P	26. P to K R 4	P to Q B 2
8. Q to Q R 4 (c)	P to K B 4	27. B to B 2	R takes Kt (g)
9. Q Kt to Q 2	Castles	28. P takes R	Q takes B
10. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt	29. R to K B sq (h)	Q to K 2
11. Q takes P at K 5	P to Q 4	30. K to K sq	Q to Q 3
12. Q takes K P (d)	R to K sq	31. B to Kt 3	Q to Q 2
13. Q takes R (ch)	Q takes K (ch)	32. K to R 2	Q to K Kt 5
14. K takes B (e)	B to K B 4	33. R to K 8 (ch)	K to B 2
15. B to K 3	P to Q R 4	34. R to K 7 (ch)	K to B sq
16. R to K sq	Q to B sq	35. B to Q 6	Q to K R 4 (ch)
17. P to Q R 3	P to Q K 5	36. K to Kt sq	K to Kt sq
18. K to Q sq	B to K 5	37. B takes P	Q to Q 8 (ch)
19. B to K 2	P to Q B 4	38. R to B 2	Q to Q 7 (ch)

After a few more moves Black resigned.

(a) P to Q 4 is safer if not stronger. It ensures the second player at least an equal game, and moreover limits the aggressive variations at the command of White in this opening.

(b) If Kt takes this P, white replies with Q to Q 5.

(c) More forcible than the usual move Q Kt to Q 2.

(d) Compulsory, as otherwise the Q must take up some useless position, and the other pieces remain for some time locked up at home.

(e) White has now virtually a won game, but it requires careful management.

(f) A cunning bait which Black snaps at, devours, but cannot digest.

(g) Of course he dare not take the B on account of R to K sq.

(h) Better than the obvious R to K sq. The whole game, indeed, is a fine specimen of Mr. Janssens' sound judgment and scientific knowledge.

MR. BLACKBURN'S SEANCE.

ON Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., Mr. Blackburn gave an exhibition of his wonderful blindfold chess, at the City of London Chess Club, Moufflet's Hotel, Newgate-street. The rooms presented a scene of unusual animation and excitement, whilst the single-handed player conducted eight games, simultaneously, against eight strong amateurs; winning four, losing two, and drawing two. This, in itself, was by no means one of Mr. Blackburn's greatest achievements, but it was certainly a very remarkable performance, considering that at the time he was suffering much pain from rheumatism and other ailments. Strange, too, notwithstanding his physical condition, he played with great ease and rapidity; and frequently, whilst waiting for his opponents' moves, chatted gaily with the bystanders, and smoked his cigar unconcernedly. On former occasions Mr. Blackburn has conducted as many as fifteen games simultaneously, and he assures us that he could easily manage twenty-five or fifty, but he prefers to limit the number to eight, as he finds that he can then finish off all the games at one sitting; and in his opinion, and also in ours, such a performance is spoiled by an adjournment. Moreover, when there are more than eight opponents, the time necessarily occupied by the single player between the moves made on each board, renders the performance very tedious to the waiting opponents, and often causes them to make weak flashy moves, in order to terminate their small torture.

We are glad to hear that the City Club is more flourishing than ever, both as regards the quantity and the quality of the players. Indeed, for many years past we have not seen so large an assemblage as that which was gathered together to witness Mr. Blackburn's performance on the Wednesday referred to. The interest thus evinced must have been no less gratifying to the player than to all true lovers of the game.

UPON the reappearance of Madame Christine Nilsson, in the part of Marguerite, at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, the house was crowded by an audience that filled every available spot in the *salle*. The reception awarded to the popular prima donna was in every way worthy of her great reputation, and each opportunity was eagerly seized upon to testify to the high esteem in which she is held in this city. The cathedral scene and that of the death of Valentine were alike vocal and histrionic triumphs.

VISCOUNT PAUL DARU, the Vice-President of the French Jockey Club, and one of the best known racing men in France, is dead. Viscount Daru and the late Duc de Morny were the prime movers of the improvements which were so remarkable on the French Turf about fifteen years ago, and the Grand Prix de Paris, the meeting at Deauville, and many of the principal stakes of the Paris metings owe their origin to the ideas of the Duc de Morny and Viscount Paul Daru, and since the death of the former nobleman the opinion of the Vice-President has had a powerful influence on all the councils of the club. Viscount Daru never kept many horses, but his brother, Baron E. Daru, had a team at Gibson's, which once contained Cosmopolite, and the stable won the Omnium with Mazeppa, on which occasion Viscount Daru won a very large stake.

LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE.—HAVE IT IN YOUR HOUSES, AND USE NO OTHER; this alone is the true antidote in Fevers, Eruptive Affections, Sea or Bilious Sickness, having peculiar and exclusive merits. For the protection of the public against fraudulent imitations I have applied for and again obtained a perpetual injunction, with costs, against a defendant. Observe the GENUINE has my NAME and TRADE MARK on a BUFF-COLOURED WRAPPER.—113, Holborn-hill, London.—[ADVT.]

"HYGEIA."—THE CITY OF HEALTH.

DR. RICHARDSON, in his Lecture on HYGEIA, said, "In the sitting and bedrooms a true oak margin of floor extends two feet round each room. Over this no carpet is ever laid. It is kept bright and clean by the old-fashioned process of beeswax and turpentine, and the air is made fresh and ozonic by the process."

HOWARD'S PATENT PORTABLE PARQUET

is made as BEAUTIFUL BORDERS for Room Floors, or to entirely cover the floor. It cannot be worn out. Prices from 4s. per Yard. 13½ inches Wide. And from 6s. per Yard. 24 inches Wide.

HOWARD & SONS,

UPHOLSTERERS, DECORATORS, & CABINET MAKERS BY STEAM POWER,
25, 26, 27, BERNERS STREET, W. (Factory, Cleveland Works).

GARDNERS' IMPROVED DUPLEX LAMPS

The maximum of light with the minimum of trouble. The principle of the duplex burner is retained, and the appearance and burning power greatly improved.

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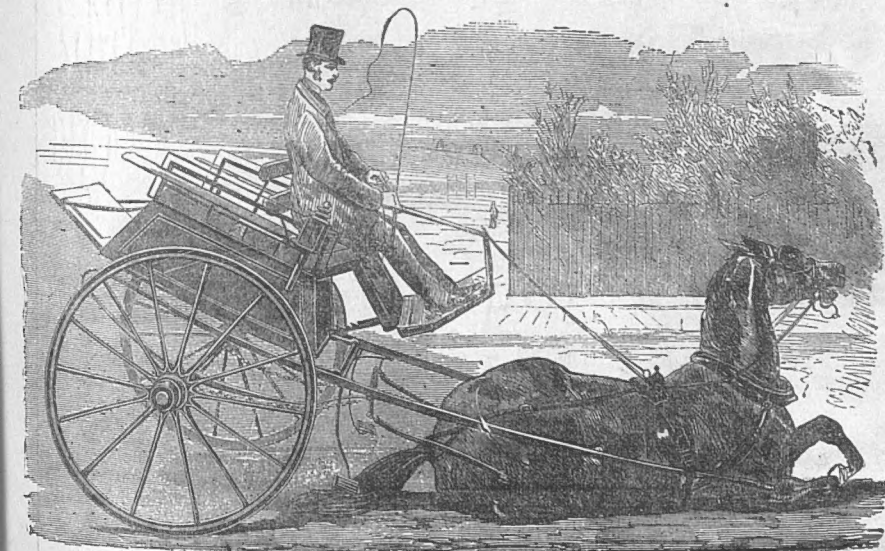
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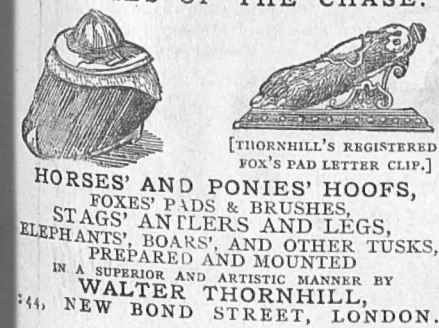
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